

THE EMERALD CITY

It was a long day. The yellow brick road went past fields and through trees, up hills and down hills. In the evening they began to see small green houses by the road. Sometimes little people in green clothes came out and looked at the friends. But they did not come near them, because they were afraid of the Cowardly Lion.

'Everything here is green. Perhaps we're near the Emerald City,' said Dorothy. 'Toto and I are hungry. Let's stop at the next house.'

A little woman opened the door, and Dorothy said, 'Please can we stay the night in your house?' The little woman looked at the Lion, and Dorothy said quickly, 'The Lion is my friend, and he never hurts anybody.'

'All right,' the little woman said. 'You can all come in.' She put a wonderful dinner on the table. Dorothy and Toto ate a lot of it, and the Lion ate some of it. But the Scarecrow and the Tin Man ate nothing.

'Where are you all going?' asked the little woman.

'To the Emerald City,' said Dorothy. 'We want to see the Wizard of Oz.'

'That's not easy,' said the woman. 'The Wizard never goes out of his house, and nobody sees his face.'

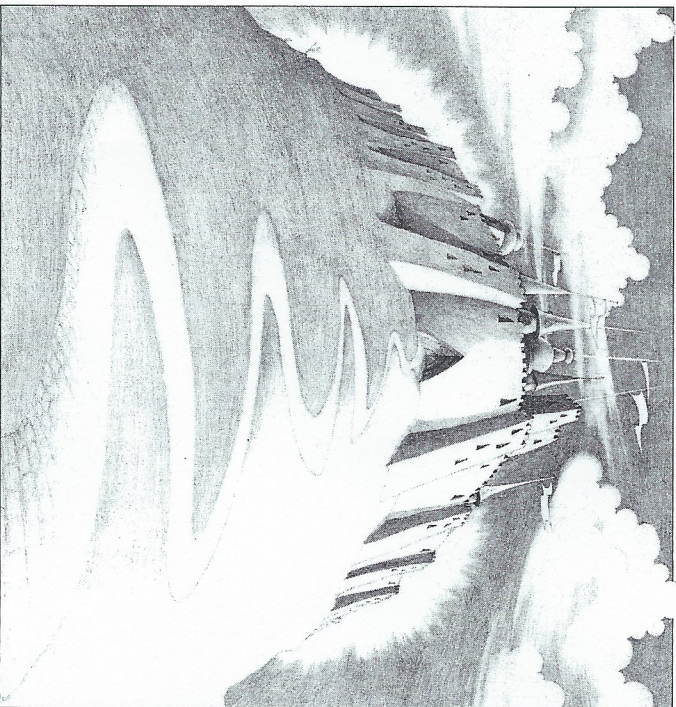
The Emerald City

'Is the Wizard a man?' asked the Scarecrow.

'Nobody knows,' said the woman. 'He's a wizard, so he can be a man, or an animal – or anything!'

'How strange!' said Dorothy. 'But we need his help, so we *must* see him.'

The next day they thanked the woman, left the house, and began walking again. Soon they saw a beautiful city in front of them – it was the Emerald City at last.



It was the Emerald City at last.

The Wizard of Oz

The friends went up the yellow brick road to a big green door, and stopped. Slowly, the door opened, and a little man in green clothes stood there.

'We want to see the Wizard, please,' said Dorothy.

'Nobody sees the Wizard,' he said. 'He is a very good and very famous Wizard, but nobody can see him.'

'We *must* see him,' said Dorothy. 'Please ask him.'

'All right,' said the green man. 'I can take you to his house. But first, you must all put glasses on.' He opened a big box. In it were lots of glasses. 'You must wear your glasses all the time,' he said. 'Everybody in the city must wear glasses. The Wizard says this.'

So they all put on glasses. The green man put on some glasses too, and then he took them through the Emerald City. Everything in the city was green – men, women, children, houses, shops, streets...

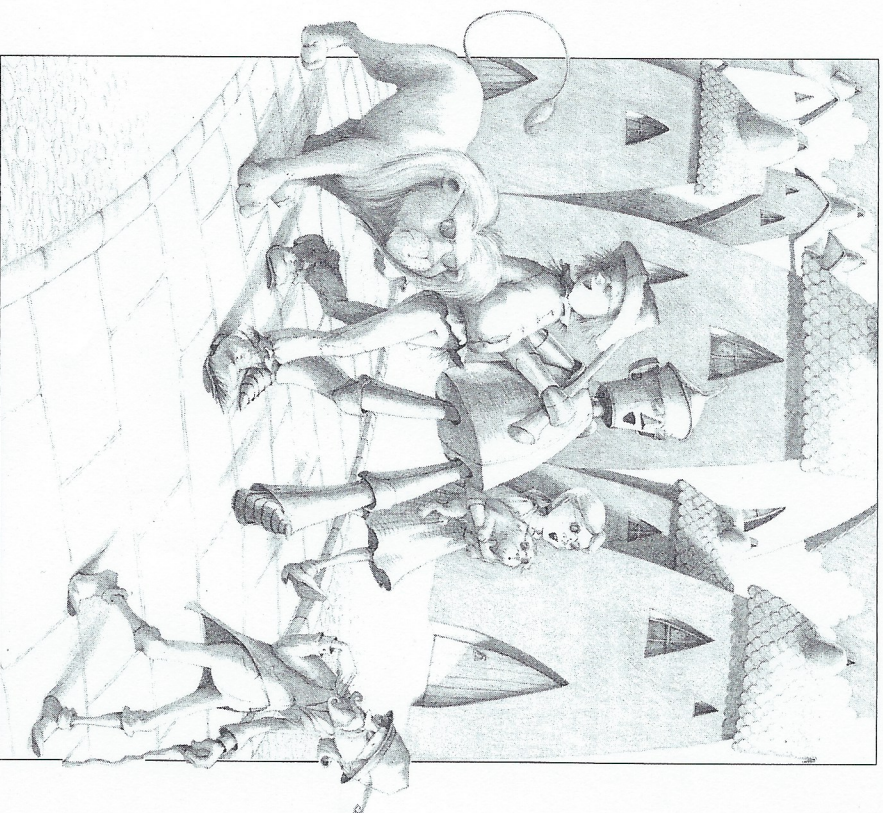
The green man took them to a very big house, and they went into a long green room. 'Wait here,' he said. After a short time he came back.

'You can see the Wizard,' he said. 'But you must go to him one by one. He wants to see the little girl first.'

Then he went away, and a green girl came in. She took Dorothy to a tall green door.

'The Wizard is in there,' said the green girl. 'He's waiting for you.'

Dorothy went in. On a green chair was a very, very big



'Everybody in the city must wear glasses,' said the green man.

head. There was no body, or arms, or legs – only a head. Its mouth opened and the Head said: 'I am Oz. Who are you, and what do you want?'

'I am Dorothy,' said the child bravely.

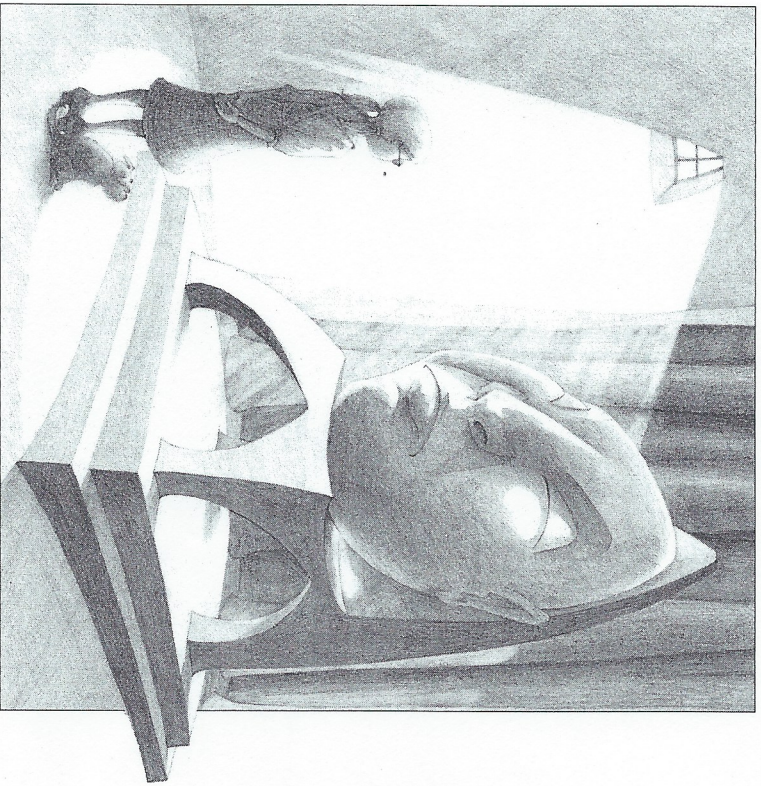
'Where did you get those red shoes?'

The Wizard of Oz

'From the bad Witch of the East,' said Dorothy. 'My house fell on her and killed her.'

'What is that thing on your face?'

'A kiss. The good Witch of the North kissed me,' said Dorothy. 'I need help, and she told me about you.'
'And what do you want?'



On a green chair was a very, very big head.

The Emerald City

'I want to go home to Kansas,' answered Dorothy, 'but I don't know the way. Please help me to get home.'

The big eyes opened and closed, opened and closed. Then the mouth opened and the Head spoke again. 'Well,' it said. 'Perhaps I can help you. But first, *you* must do something for *me*.'

'What do you want me to do?' asked Dorothy.

'Kill the bad Witch of the West.'

'But I don't want to kill anybody!' said Dorothy.

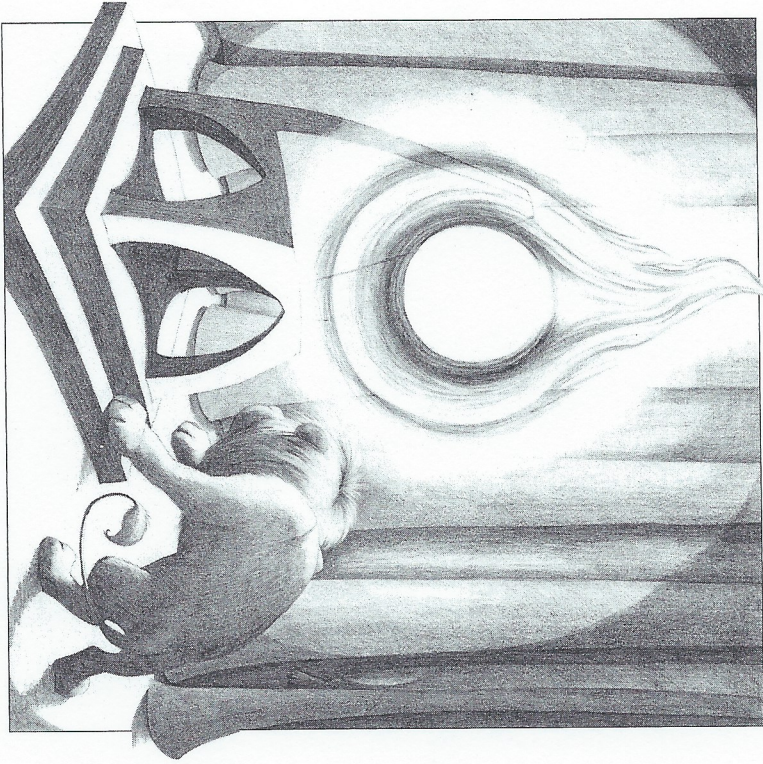
'You killed her sister. And you are wearing her shoes. Go now, and kill the Witch of the West.'

The little girl began to cry. 'But how can I kill the Witch?' she said. The big eyes opened and looked at her, but the Head did not answer. Dorothy went away, and then her friends went into the Wizard's room – first the Scarecrow, then the Tin Man, and last the Lion.

Later, they all met in the long green room and talked. Dorothy told her friends about the Head.

'That's interesting,' said the Scarecrow. 'I didn't see a Head; I saw a beautiful woman. I asked her for some brains and she said, "Yes, but first you must help Dorothy to kill the Witch of the West."'

'I saw a big animal with two heads,' said the Tin Man. 'I asked for a heart. The animal said, "I can give you a heart; but first you must help Dorothy to kill the Witch of the West."' What did you see, Lion?'



'I saw a ball of fire,' said the Cowardly Lion.

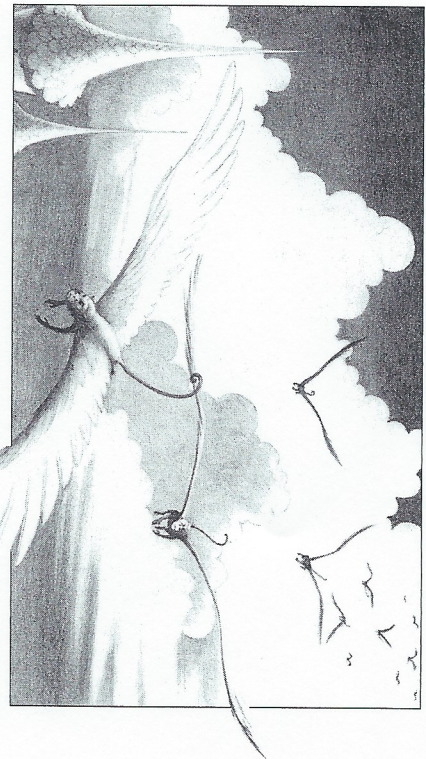
'I saw a ball of fire,' said the Cowardly Lion. 'I said, "I'm a coward; please make me brave." And the fire said, "When the Witch of the West is dead, I can help you. But not before." I was angry then,' said the Lion, 'but the ball of fire got bigger and bigger, so I ran away.'
'Oh, what are we going to do?' said Dorothy.
'Well,' said the Scarecrow. 'We must find the Witch of the West, and then we must kill her.'

THE WITCH AND THE MONKEYS

The next morning they left the Emerald City. The green man took away their glasses and told them the way to the Witch's house. 'Everybody is afraid of the Witch of the West,' he said. 'So be careful!'

The friends walked for a long time. The road was bad, and there were no houses, no fields, no trees.

Now the Witch of the West had a magic eye, and it could see everything. She saw the friends on the road, and she was angry. She put on her tall black hat and shouted, 'Magic Monkeys – come!'



'Magic Monkeys – come!'

The Wizard of Oz

In a second forty monkeys arrived at her tall house. 'What do you want?' they asked.

'There are three people, a dog, and a lion on my road,' she said. 'Kill the people and the dog. But bring the lion here to my house. He can work for me.'

'At once,' said the Monkeys. And away they went. They broke the Tin Man's arms and legs. They took all the straw out of the Scarecrow and threw his clothes up into a tall tree. Then they took the Lion and carried him to a dark cellar under the Witch's house.

But they could not hurt Dorothy and Toto, because of the good Witch's kiss. So the Monkeys picked them up



They threw the Scarecrow's clothes up into a tall tree.

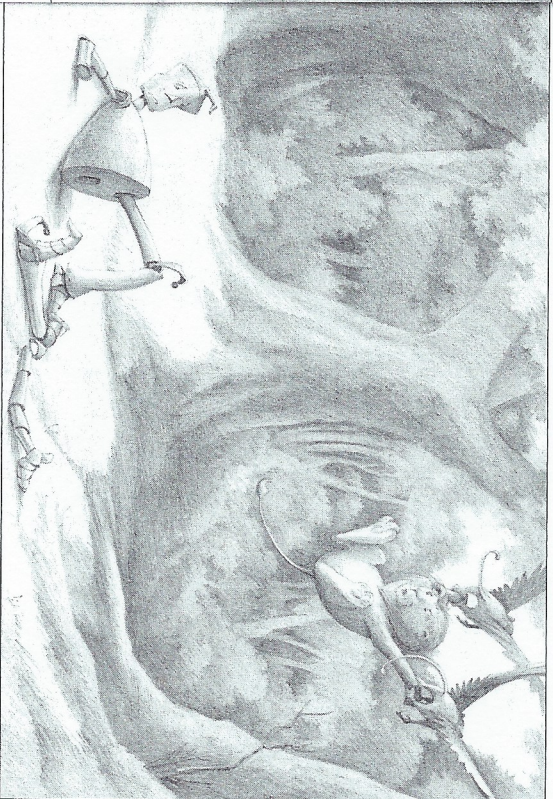
The Witch and the Monkeys

very carefully and carried them to the Witch's house. The Witch saw the kiss on Dorothy's face, and was afraid. But she did not tell Dorothy that.

'You must work for me in my house now,' she said to the child. 'All day, and every day. And remember - I am watching you all the time.'

Now Dorothy did not know this, but the red shoes were magic. The Witch wanted those shoes very much, but Dorothy never took them off. She took them off when she washed, of course, but the Witch never went near water. She was very, very afraid of water.

Then, one morning, Dorothy's left shoe fell off.



The Witch picked up the shoe at once. 'This is *my* shoe now!' she shouted.

'No, it isn't!' shouted Dorothy angrily. 'Give it back to me at once!'

'No!' said the Witch. And then she tried to take Dorothy's right shoe too.

Dorothy loved her red shoes, and she was very angry. There was a bucket of water near the door. Dorothy picked up the bucket and threw the water at the Witch. The water hit her in the face, and she cried out, 'Help! Help! The water is killing me! The – water – is . . .'

And then she disappeared! There was only her tall black hat and a long black dress.

Dorothy looked and looked, but the Witch was not there. Dorothy picked up her red shoe and put it on.

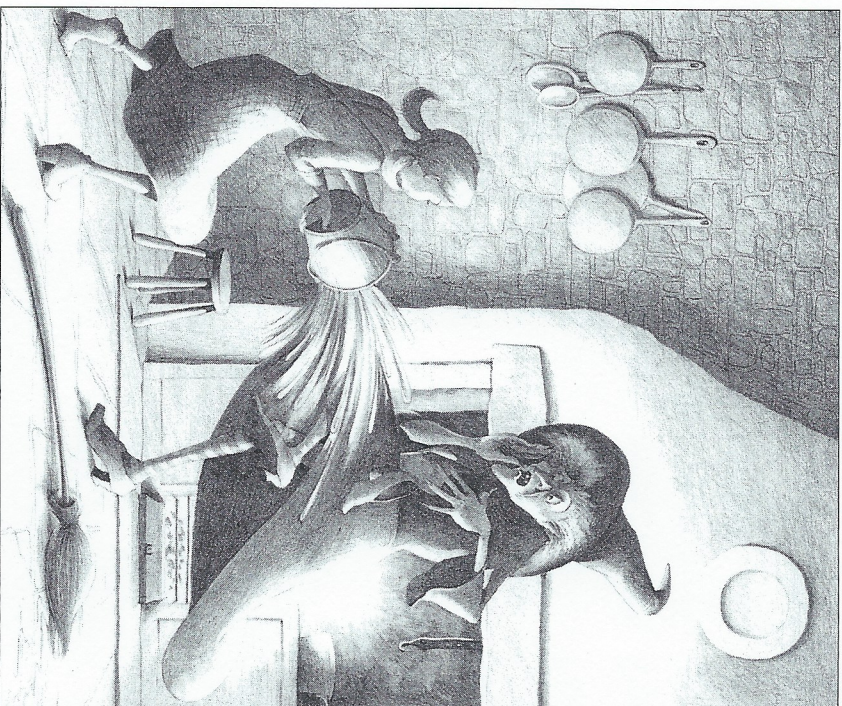
'Now, how can I help my friends?' she said. 'Can I call the Magic Monkeys?' She picked up the Witch's black hat and looked at it. 'Perhaps I must wear this magic hat when I speak.' So she put the hat on and called, 'Magic Monkeys – come!'

The Monkeys arrived in a second.

'Please can you help my friends?' asked Dorothy.

'Of course,' said the Monkeys. 'We must always help the wearer of the magic black hat.'

They broke open the dark cellar, and the Cowardly Lion came out. 'Free at last!' he said. 'Thank you!'



Dorothy threw the water at the Witch.

Then the Monkeys found the Scarecrow's clothes and put some new straw in them. The Scarecrow laughed and jumped. 'Thank you!' he said.

Next the Monkeys mended the Tin Man and gave him a new oil-can. He moved his arms and legs. 'I feel wonderful!' he said. 'Thank you!'

Dorothy told her friends about the Witch and the water, and they were all very happy. Toto could not speak, but he jumped up and down very happily.

'Now,' said Dorothy, 'we must go back to the Wizard of Oz. Magic Monkeys – take us to the Emerald City!' 'Don't forget the magic black hat!' said the Tin Man. The Monkeys carried them up into the sky, and ten minutes later the friends were once again at the big green door of the Emerald City.



The Monkeys carried them up into the sky.

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THE OLD MAN FROM KANSAS

The little green man opened the door. He gave them all glasses, then he took them through the city to the Wizard's house. There, in the long green room, the friends waited, and waited . . . and waited.

After three hours the Scarecrow said, 'I'm tired of waiting.' He called the green man. 'We want to see the Wizard *now*. Or we're going to call the Magic Monkeys. Please tell the Wizard that.'

The green man went away to speak to the Wizard through the door. The Wizard knew about the Magic Monkeys, and he was very afraid of them. So he said to the green man, 'These people can come and see me at nine o'clock tomorrow morning.'

At nine o'clock the green man took the friends to the Wizard's room. They went in and looked all round, but they could not see anybody. Then a voice said, 'I am the Wizard of Oz. Who are you, and what do you want?'

'Where are you?' asked Dorothy.

'I am everywhere, but you can't see me. Now answer me – who are you and what do you want?'

'You know us all,' said the Scarecrow. 'You said to me, "Help Dorothy to kill the Witch of the West, and

The Wizard of Oz

you can have some brains.” Well, the Witch is dead, and now I want my brains.’

‘And I want my heart,’ said the Tin Man.

‘And I want to be brave,’ said the Cowardly Lion.

‘And I want to go home to Kansas,’ said Dorothy.

‘Is the Witch truly dead?’ asked the Voice.

‘Yes,’ said Dorothy. ‘I threw a bucket of water over her, and she disappeared.’

‘Very well,’ said the Voice. ‘Come again tomorrow. I must think about things first and—’

‘No!’ said the Tin Man. ‘I want my heart now!’

‘I’m not going to wait another minute!’ said the Scarecrow.

‘And I’m going to eat you!’ the Lion shouted very angrily. Toto was afraid. He jumped away from the Lion, and hit a screen near the wall. The screen fell over, and behind it the friends saw an old man with no hair.

The Tin Man looked angry and picked up his axe.

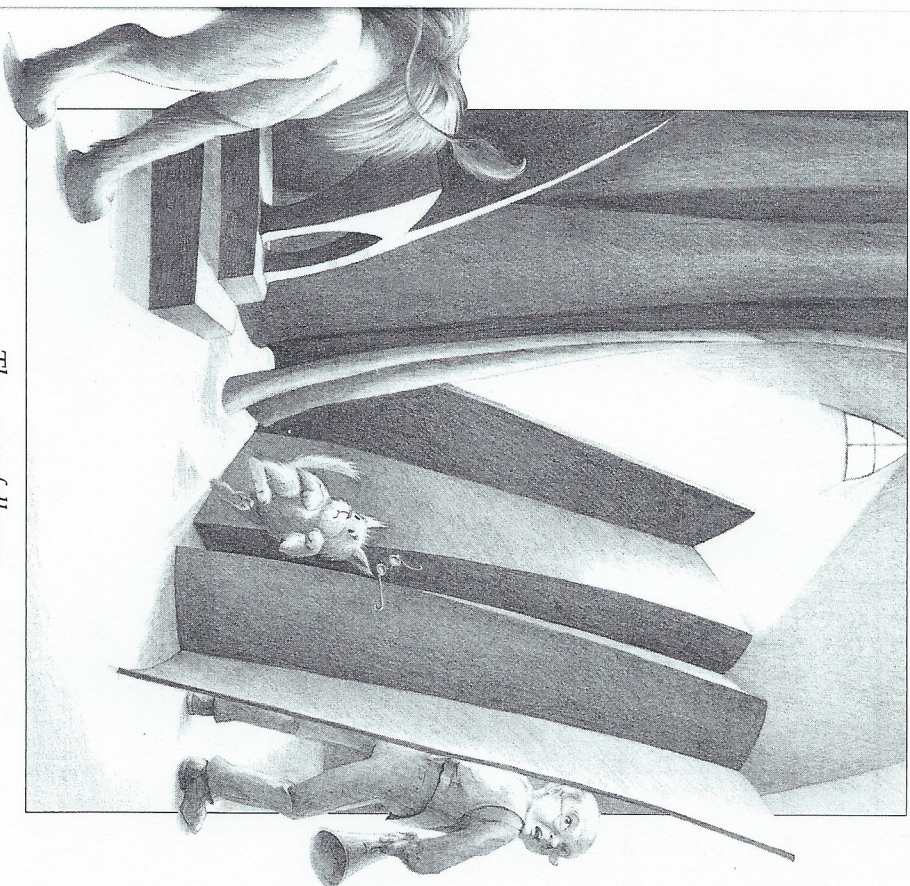
‘Who are you?’ he said.

‘Please don’t hurt me!’ said the old man, in a quiet little voice. ‘I’m the Wizard of Oz.’

‘But the Wizard of Oz is a big head without a body,’ said Dorothy.

‘No, he’s a beautiful woman,’ said the Scarecrow.

‘You’re wrong,’ said the Tin Man. ‘The Wizard of Oz is a big animal with two heads.’



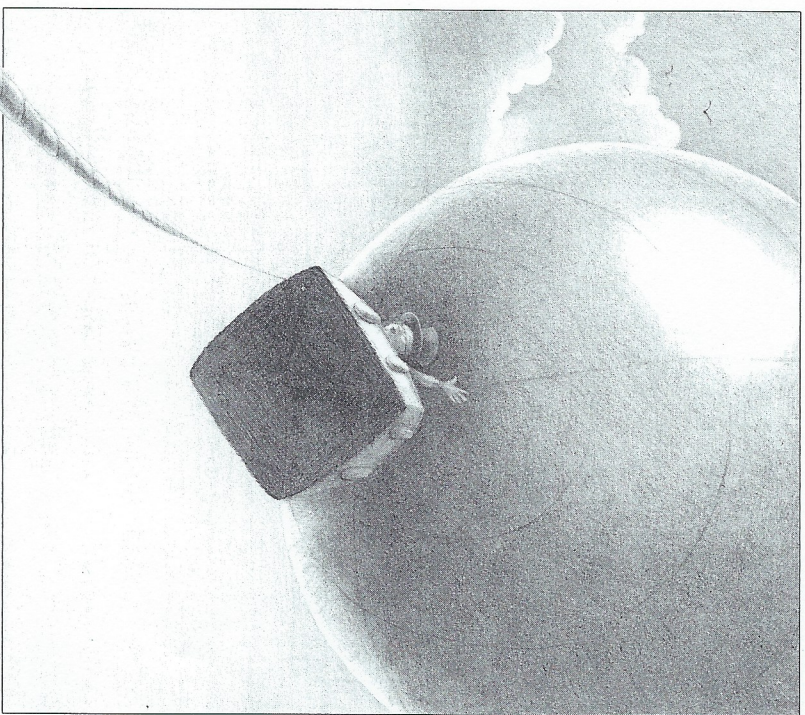
The screen fell over.

‘No,’ said the Lion. ‘The Wizard is a ball of fire.’

‘You’re all wrong,’ said the old man. ‘I am the Wizard . . . Well, I’m not a true wizard. Oh, I know a lot of tricks, but I don’t know any true magic. You see, I’m from Kansas too. I went from town to town and did

The Wizard of Oz

magic tricks. And I went up in a big balloon. The balloon was always on a rope, but one day something went wrong. The rope broke and the balloon blew away. For a long time the wind carried my balloon across the sky. Then I came down here, in the country of Oz. The people



'The balloon was always on a rope.'

The old man from Kansas

saw my balloon and said, "This man is a wizard! He comes out of the sky!" They were afraid of me and wanted to work for me. . . . So they built this city for me, and I called it the Emerald City. Well, emeralds are green, so I made green glasses for everybody. That's why everything in the city looks green.'

The Scarecrow took off his glasses. 'Oh,' he said. 'Now I understand. The Emerald City isn't green. It just looks green. It's all a trick.'

'That's right,' said the old man. 'Well, all that happened many years ago. I never went out because I was afraid of the two bad Witches. Now they are dead – thanks to you, Dorothy. But I'm very sorry, I don't know any true magic, so I can't help you.'

'You're a very bad man,' said Dorothy.

'No, my child. I'm a very good man, but I *am* a very bad wizard, that's true.'

'What about my brains?,' said the Scarecrow.

'You don't *need* brains. You understand things; you can think, you learn quickly. You're very clever.'

'I *want* brains,' said the Scarecrow.

'Very well,' said the old man. 'I can give you some brains tomorrow morning.'

'What about my heart?,' asked the Tin Man.

'You don't *need* a heart,' said the old man. 'You laugh, you cry, you love, you feel sorry for people.'

The Wizard of Oz

The Tin Man looked angry and picked up his axe.
'All right – please don't hurt me!' said the old man. 'I can give you a heart tomorrow morning.'

'I want to be brave,' said the Cowardly Lion.

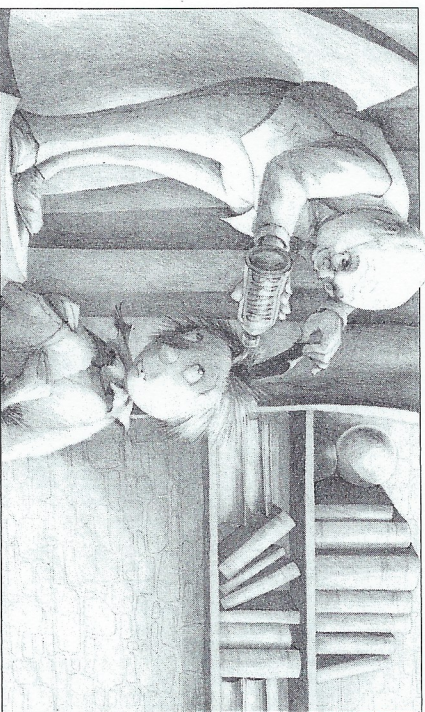
But you *are* brave. You do a lot of brave things! No, no – don't eat me! Come here tomorrow morning. I'm going to make you brave.'

'What about Toto and me?' asked Dorothy.

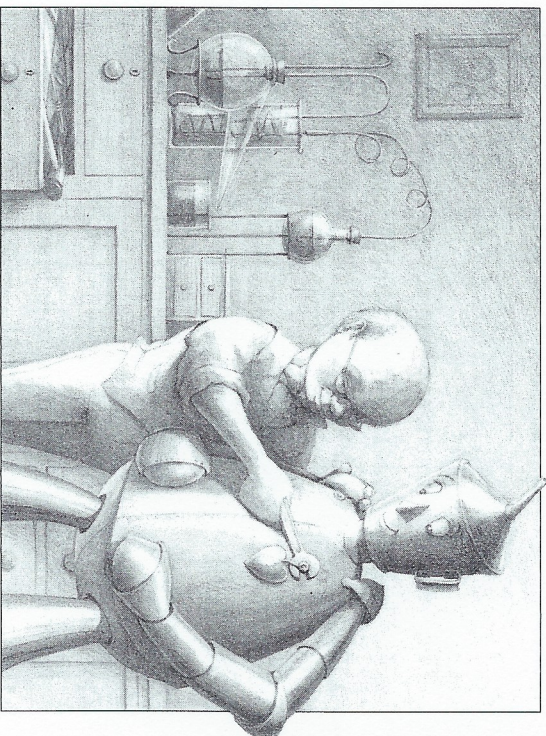
'We can go up in my balloon,' said the Wizard. 'The wind blew us here from Kansas – perhaps it can blow us back to Kansas again.'

* * *

The next morning the friends came again to the Wizard's room. The old man was ready. He took a bottle with



'I'm putting your brains in,' said the Wizard.



'Wear this always,' the Wizard said.

BRAINS on it in big green letters, and carefully opened the Scarecrow's head.

'Don't move. I'm putting your brains in,' he said.

'There – now you're the cleverest scarecrow in Oz.' The Scarecrow thanked him.

Next the Wizard gave the Tin Man a small red heart.

'Wear this always,' he said.

The Tin Man was very happy and thanked the Wizard again and again.

Then the old man took a bottle with **BE BRAVE** on it.

'Drink this,' he said to the Cowardly Lion.

The Lion drank. 'Yes. Yes, I feel brave!' he shouted.

'Very, very brave! Thank you!'

The Wizard smiled at them. 'You didn't need my magic,' he said. 'But you're all happy now, and that's a good thing. Now, Dorothy,' he said, 'come and see my balloon. It's all ready. I mended it last night.'

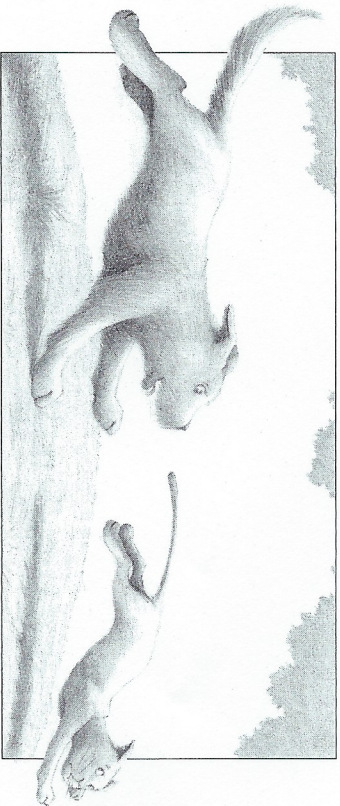
They went out into the garden behind the Wizard's house. The balloon was very big. There was a small box under it, and the Wizard of Oz jumped into the box.

'Come on, Dorothy!' he shouted. 'We're going to Kansas. Say goodbye to your friends.'

Dorothy kissed the Scarecrow, the Lion, and the Tin Man, and said goodbye. 'Come on, Toto,' she said. 'We're going home to Kansas. We're going to see Aunt Em and Uncle Henry.'

But just then Toto saw a cat. He jumped out of Dorothy's arms and ran after it.

'Toto!' called Dorothy, and she began to run after him.



Toto ran after the cat.

'EAST, WEST – HOME'S BEST!'

'Leave the dog and come quickly!' shouted the Wizard. 'The rope's going to break!'

Dorothy picked Toto up and ran. 'Wait!' she shouted. But before she got there, the rope *did* break, and the balloon went up, up, up into the sky.

They heard the old man's voice, very far away.

'Ask the Witch of the So-o-o-outh.'



But the rope did break ...

The Wizard of Oz

Then the balloon disappeared. And nobody saw the Wizard of Oz again.

Dorothy began to cry. 'Oh, how can I get home now?'

'Put on the magic black hat,' said the Scarecrow, 'and ask the Magic Monkeys for help. Perhaps they can find the Witch of the South and bring her here.'

'Clever Scarecrow!' said Dorothy. She put on the magic hat and called for the Magic Monkeys. When they arrived, she said, 'Please find the Witch of the South, and bring her here to the Emerald City.'

And five minutes later, a beautiful woman with long red hair arrived. 'I am Glinda, the Witch of the South,' she said. 'What can I do for you, my child?'

'I want to go home to Kansas,' said Dorothy. 'Please can you help me?'

'Ask your shoes,' smiled the good Witch. But Dorothy did not understand.

'Your red shoes,' said Glinda, 'are magic shoes. They can carry you home. Just close your eyes, and say, "East, west – home's best." Then jump.'

'Oh, thank you,' cried Dorothy happily.

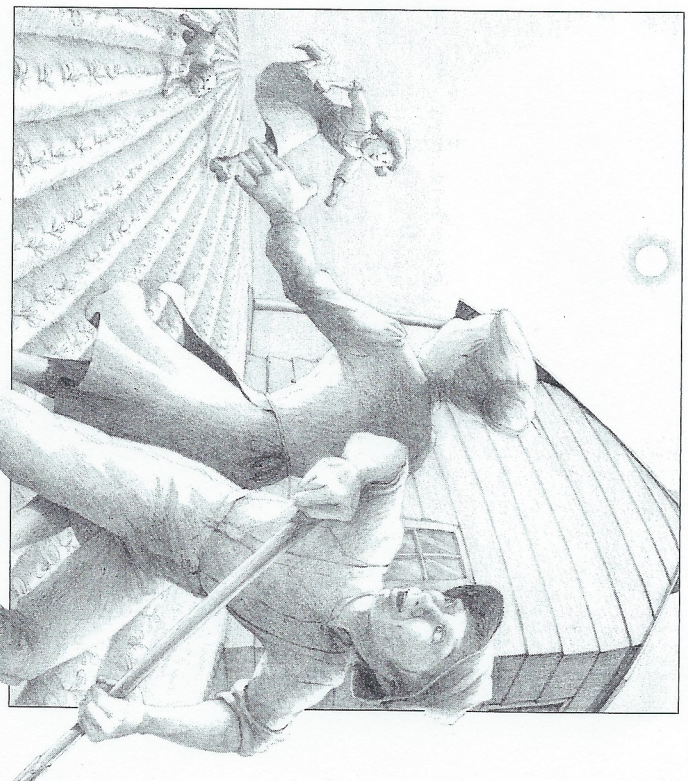
She kissed her friends and said goodbye again. Then she picked up Toto and closed her eyes. 'East, west – home's best,' she said – and jumped. There was a noise like a wind, and suddenly Dorothy was in the sky. The red shoes fell off her feet, and she never saw them again.

'East, west – home's best!'

When she opened her eyes, there she was – back in Kansas. And there were Aunt Em and Uncle Henry, in a field by a new little house.

'Dorothy!' cried Aunt Em. She ran and took Dorothy in her arms. 'Oh, Dorothy, what happened to you? And where did you come from?'

'From the country of Oz,' said Dorothy. 'But I'm home again now – and I'm so happy!'



East, west – home's best.

GLOSSARY

- blow (past tense blew) to move something through the air
brains you think with your brains
brave not afraid of anything
cellar a room under a building, under the ground
city a big, important town
clever quick to learn and understand
clothes dresses, trousers, shirts, coats, etc.
coward a person who is afraid of many things
disappear when something disappears, you can't see it or find it
emerald a beautiful green jewel
fall (past tense fell) to go down suddenly to a lower place
heart the part of you which feels, loves, is happy, etc.
hurt to do bad things to people
magic when strange, exciting, unusual things happen
mend to make something good again (e.g. a broken window)
pick up to take something up in your hand
shout (*v*) to speak very loudly
strange if something is strange to you, you do not know it or understand it
tin a soft white metal
tricks clever things which look like magic, but which are not magic
voice you speak, shout, sing, etc. with your voice
witch a woman in stories who can do magic
wizard a man in stories who can do magic

The Wizard of Oz

ACTIVITIES