

# Monologue Mania!

## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

By Tim Kelly

### Female / Ageless / Timeless

**About the play:** *The Wizard of Oz* is perhaps the most popular children's story ever written, and here's a version that's very simple and economical to stage. A cyclone carries Dorothy and her dog, Toto, to the magical land of Oz, where they encounter all the familiar characters from the pen of L. Frank Baum... the Cowardly Lion, the Tin Woodsman, the rubber-legged Scarecrow, Glinda the Good Witch, and the Wicked Witch of the West, who is determined to destroy Dorothy and steal the secret of the silver slippers.

**About the scene:** Dorothy and her friends (Scarecrow, Tin Woodsman, and the Cowardly Lion) have just met with the great Oz. Frightened by his booming voice and ominous appearance, they leave without their brain, heart, courage, and home respectively. Now, they must search for the Wicked Witch and destroy her, as Oz has commanded. Here, the Wicked Witch watches the group through her telescope. She speaks to her monkeys, bidding them to do her dirty work so that she might finally possess Dorothy's enchanted silver slippers.

\* \* \*

### WICKED WITCH:

What is it, you flying pelt of fleas? (*Puts a telescope to her eye.*) Aha, I see them! That wretched Dorothy and her dog, and that Tin Woodsman, and Cowardly Lion, and that walking sack of straw. (*Lowers telescope.*) I know what I'll do. I'll destroy them with a pack of wolves. They have long legs and fierce eyes and sharp teeth. (*Delighted with the WICKED WITCH'S plan, MONKEYS hop about, clap their paws.*) Or, I could send a great flock of wild crows, enough to darken the sky. They could peck them to pieces. (*MONKEYS hop about joyfully. WICKED WITCH laughs fiendishly.*) Or, how about a swarm of black bees to sting them forever and ever! (*MONKEYS are beside themselves in glee, hugging one another, making monkey sounds.*)

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(continued)

Capture the Lion, bring him to me. I'll harness him like a horse and make him work. Destroy the Scarecrow and the Tin Woodsman and seize Dorothy. I must have those silver slippers. (*WINGED MONKEYS nod.*) Quickly, hide yourselves so they do not see you. (*WINGED MONKEYS hop OUT.*)

(*Using the telescope again, gradually moves it to face DOWN LEFT.*) Good, good. They're coming right this way. Closer, closer. Almost here... (*Faces DOWN LEFT.*) Welcome "friends," to the domain of the Wicked Witch of the West. (*Cackles.*) Remember, Dorothy, your good friend, Glinda the Good, has no power here.