

# The Rainbow Road to Oz

a fantasy play in two acts

written by Luis Rivera

Based on the Wizard of Oz books by L. Frank Baum

ACT I

Scene I: a Farm in Kansas

*At the rise of the curtain farm hands discovered.*

*House servants are busy performing their various duties.*

*One man on a wheat rack, Servants cleaning pans, etc in front of the house.*

*Several girls enter carrying apples.*

*Suddenly old man reading paper, rises and points to the approaching cyclone.*

*Connection on part of everyone.*

*They all excitedly and frantically rush off stage.*

Scene II: Munchkinland

*When the lights go up, Munchkins discovered all dressed in blue and posed about a Maypole.*

*A Maypole dance follows.*

*Then the entrance of the Wicked Witch.*

*She drives them about the stage until someone calls her attention to the approaching cyclone.*

*All rush about wildly. Lights gradually go out.*

*As the lights go up, Dorothy enters R.*

DOROTHY: Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore.

*The Good Witch and the Munchkins enter L.*

GOOD WITCH: Welcome to the Munchkin country. We want to thank you for destroying the Wicked Witch.

DOROTHY: I haven't destroyed anybody.

1st MUNCHKIN: Well, your house did. Look over there!

*They look R.*

DOROTHY: Oh no! What can we do?

GOOD WITCH: There's nothing we can do. She kept prisoners the people from this city. They were her slaves day and night, and now they are free.

DOROTHY: And who are you?

GOOD WITCH: I am the Witch of the North.

DOROTHY: Are you a real witch?.

GOOD WITCH: Of course. But I am a good witch, but I am not as powerful as the Wicked Witch was.

2nd MUNCHKIN: Look over there.

3rd MUNCHKIN: Her feet are gone!

MUNCHKIN MAYOR: She left only her silver shoes.

GOOD WITCH: She was so old that her feet dried with the sun. The shoes are yours, you can use them.

*The Good Witch fetches the silver shoes and gives them to Dorothy.*

*Dorothy puts on the shoes.*

MUNCHKIN MAYOR: As Mayor of Munchkinland, I decree this day as a sign of independence to all Munchkins and their descendants, if any.

Let the joyous news be spread

The wicked old witch at last is dead!

SONG: Ta Ra Ra Boom De Ay

MUNCHKIN MAYOR: When you're feeling kind of blue  
And you don't know what to do  
Step into your dancing shoes  
Sing and dance away the blues.  
Come with us and have some fun  
Quick before our day is done  
Join us as we sing our song  
Everyone can sing along.

MUNCHKINS: Ta ra ra boom de ay!  
Ta ra ra boom de ay!

DOROTHY: I want to go home. Can you show me the way to Kansas?

GOOD WITCH: To the East, South, North and West there are great deserts  
and nobody dares to cross them. So, we can't help you.

*Dorothy starts to cry.*

*During the following dialogue, the Munchkins bring out the Scarecrow*

GOOD WITCH: What is your name, dear?.

DOROTHY: My name is Dorothy Gale, and this is Toto.

GOOD WITCH: You must go to Emerald City. The Wizard of Oz might help  
you.

DOROTHY: Where is that city?.

GOOD WITCH: It's in the middle of the country. The Wizard of Oz rules  
the city.

DOROTHY: Is he a good man?.

GOOD WITCH: He's a good wizard, but I have never seen him.

DOROTHY: How can I get to that city?

GOOD WITCH: Just follow the yellow brick road.

DOROTHY: Are you coming with me?

GOOD WITCH: No, I can't. When you get to Oz, tell him your story and

ask for help. (exits)

DOROTHY: Oh, she's gone. Toto, we must go.

SCARECROW: A brain, a brain! If I only had a brain!

DOROTHY: Did you hear that, Toto?. Who is talking?

SCARECROW: It's me. Look this way.

DOROTHY: (looks at the Scarecrow) Did you say something?

SCARECROW: Yes, indeed.

DOROTHY: You seem well posted.

SCARECROW: If I wasn't well posted I couldn't stand up.

DOROTHY: I mean, you know what's in fashion.

SCARECROW: For a long time I've been just behind the stile. (Points to stile)

DOROTHY: Don't you think you're smart!

SCARECROW: I don't think at all. I haven't any brains.

DOROTHY: No brains?

SCARECROW: (Tapping head) There is nothing there but a handful of excelsior covered with a dishrag. When the farmer was filling me with straw yesterday he said, "I guess I'll shake him". When I saw the size of his hand I knew it was on me. Then he jabbed this twenty-four foot pole into my back and said, "You're stuck". That put me up in the air, where I've been for the last twenty-four hours.

DOROTHY: And, how can you talk?

SCARECROW: I don't know. But some people without brains do an awful lot of talking. Don't they.

DOROTHY: And how are you going to earn your living without brains?

SCARECROW: I won't be lonely. Will you help me down?

DOROTHY: Certainly.

SCARECROW: I'm getting a bad pain in my polar regions, from lack of exercise.

DOROTHY: (Helps him down from post) Can't you walk?

SCARECROW: No. But I'll take steps to learn. (Walks awkwardly.)

DOROTHY: My name is Dorothy, and I am one of the Kansas Gales.

SCARECROW: That accounts for your breezy manner.

DOROTHY: When I am at home I live in Kansas. Just now I am lost, and I am going to the Emerald City to ask the Wizard of Oz to help me.

SCARECROW: What, to get back to Kansas? Dottie, why trifle with your luck?

DOROTHY: Behave. You are old enough to know better.

SCARECROW: No, I'm not! I was just born, and it will be three hundred and sixty-four days before I have a birthday.

DOROTHY: How long do you think you'll live?

SCARECROW: Until I'm used to stuff a summer boarder's mattress. Do you think the Wizard would have a set of brains knocking around his place that would fit me?

DOROTHY: He might.

SCARECROW: If I thought he could fix me up I'd go with you.

DOROTHY: Come along. Even if he is out of your size you'll be no worse off than you are now. (Both start to go L.)

SCARECROW: We're a nice looking couple. Suppose we're arrested for vagrancy?

DOROTHY: You could give straw bail. Do you know, I can hardly believe that you have no brains? How careless the farmer was to leave them out.

SCARECROW: Wasn't he? I wouldn't treat a dog that way.

SONG: Ragged But Right

SCARECROW: I've just come here to tell you that I'm ragged but right

A rambling and a gambling, I'm free every night

I eat a porterhouse steak three times a day for my board

That's more than any guy in this town can afford.

I have a big electric fan to keep me cool while I sleep

A mattress stuffed with dollar bills to tickle my feet.

My motto is meet'em and cheat'em and love'em and leave'em and break'em  
in right

'Cause I tell you folks that I'm ragged but right.

*Exeunt.*

Scene III: a forest

*Dorothy and the Scarecrow enter R., when they find the Tin Man, standing near the road.*

DOROTHY: Come along, I'll help you get a position. Now, what field have you been in?

SCARECROW: All of them. I began in the pasture lot, and was moved up to the potato patch.

DOROTHY: Do you know beans?

SCARECROW: I should say I do. A bean vine grew up my right leg once. (Dorothy sits on ground and begins to eat cakes from basket) What are you doing?

DOROTHY: Eating.

SCARECROW: What do you do that for?

DOROTHY: Because I'm hungry. Don't you ever eat?

SCARECROW: No. I'm stuffed full now. Pretty soon you'll be stuffed full and you won't be able to eat either.

DOROTHY: I eat three or four times a day.

SCARECROW: Is it necessary?

DOROTHY: Of course.

SCARECROW: How I pity you. You people of flesh must waste a lot of time trying to keep alive.

DOROTHY: Haven't you any taste?

SCARECROW: I admire you.

DOROTHY: You're a strange creature. That farmer might have taken more pains in your manufacture in more ways than one.

SCARECROW: Yes. Think of his starting me in life with so few advantages. (A groan heard back of drop)

DOROTHY: What's that?

SCARECROW: It sounds like a carette horse passing a stable at dinner time.

DOROTHY: It comes from behind these bushes. Dare you look and see what it is?

SCARECROW: I fear nothing, but a lighted match, or a cigarette smoker. If ever I bump up against either of those two -- peace to my ashes. (Pushes bushes aside) I've got it. (Brings Tin-man out)

*Tin Man stands, rigid, with fife in position for playing.*

DOROTHY: Is that a man, or a hardware store?

SCARECROW: He's been married tin years and this is his tin wedding.

DOROTHY: Did you play, sir?

TIN MAN: Did I play? I've been practicing that lovely tune for over a year.

DOROTHY: Why do you stand so still?

TIN MAN: I'm rusted.

DOROTHY: Where? Tin-man In my joints.

DOROTHY: Must you stay there forever?

TIN MAN: Not if you will help me. Get the oil can from behind that stump and oil me up a bit and then I'll be oil right.

SCARECROW: I'll rush the can. (Gets oil can from behind out drop and begins to oil Tin-man's joints.)

TIN MAN: What a blessed relief. Accept my thanks. Nick Chopper is at last himself again.

DOROTHY: I'm so glad we heard you. What a dangerous position you were in.

TIN MAN: Wasn't I? If a hold-up man had come along with a can opener he might have gone through me with ease. (To Scarecrow) Here, oil my neck a little more. It doesn't turn smoothly.

SCARECROW: (Oiling Tin Man's neck.) Some of these tough joints ought to be pulled.

TIN MAN: (To Dorothy) Your friend seems to be one of the light fingered gentry. I hope he's not as bad as he's painted.

DOROTHY: What a horrid thing for you to say, after his helping you out of your trouble.

TIN MAN: I beg your pardon, Miss; it's a long time since I've been in polite society and I'm still a bit rusty. (To Scarecrow) Much obliged for the grease. Ah, I was not always made of tin. Once I was made of flesh and blood, as you two are.

SCARECROW: (Taking handful of straw from breast.) Cut me out, please.

DOROTHY: How did it happen.

TIN MAN: A pretty Munchkin girl loved me devotedly. Often she came and held the trees while I chopped them down, and then gently lowered them to the ground. But the wicked witch had forbidden any love-making in her domains, and one day my sweetheart and I were caught holding hands. She enchanted my axe so that it slipped and cut off my leg. I went to the tinsmith and had a new one made. Then, one by one, I lost my arms, head, and body, but the tinsmith replaced each missing member. I kept on chopping wood, though, and said nothing. I was happy, notwithstanding, until I discovered that I no longer loved my sweetheart.

DOROTHY: No longer loved her? Why?

TIN MAN The tinsmith had forgotten to give me a heart.

SCARECROW: That probably came extra.

DOROTHY: Come along with us to Oz, perhaps you can get a heart.

TIN MAN: Who is Oz - a butcher?

DOROTHY No, no! It's city, where a wonderful wizard rules.

TIN MAN: (dancing to time.) Oh, if I only had a heart. What an awful thing it was - To be without a heart, but now I'll get it from the Wizard of Oz.

SONG: In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree

TIN MAN: In the shade of the old apple tree

When the love in your eyes I could see

When the voice that I heard, like the song of the bird

Seemed to whisper sweet music to me

I could hear the dull buzz of the bee

In the blossoms as you said to me

With a heart that is true, I'll be waiting for you

In the shade of the old apple tree

*Toto starts barking.*

DOROTHY: Toto, stop barking!

TOTO: Arf! Arf! Arf!

*The Cowardly Lion hides behind the bushes, frightened.*

DOROTHY: Come here Lion. Toto will not harm you.

*The Lion comes out from his hiding place, crying.*

DOROTHY: Why are you crying?

LION: I am crying because I wished that I had courage. I was scared of your little dog.

DOROTHY: I know. I don't understand. We know that you are the king of the jungle.

LION: I know.

TIN MAN: Why don't you come with us to visit the Wizard of Oz. Maybe he can also help you!

LION: Yes, I need courage, and I want to get it. Let's go!

SONG: Side by Side

SCARECROW: Oh, we ain't got a barrel of money

Maybe we're ragged and funny

But we'll travel along singing a song  
Side by side.

TIN MAN: Don't know what's coming tomorrow  
Maybe it's trouble and sorrow  
But we'll travel the road sharin' our load  
Side by side.

DOROTHY: Through all kind of weather  
What if the sky should fall  
As long as we're together  
It doesn't matter at all.

LION: When they've all had their quarrels and parted  
We'll be the same as we started  
Just to travel along singing a song  
Side by side.

ALL: When they've all had their quarrels and parted  
We'll be the same as we started  
Just to travel along singing a song  
Side by side.

*Exeunt.*

Scene IV: the poppy field

*The group enters.*

DOROTHY: Oh, this garden is so beautiful, and those flowers are so pretty, and the smell is so fragrant, that I really want to sleep.  
(fall asleep)

LION: Me too. I feel so relax. (falls asleep)

SCARECROW: Let's wake them up.

TIN MAN: You can't. Before I turned to tin I didn't dare to cross these fields. Their perfume brings an endless sleep.

SCARECROW: I don't feel sleepy.

TIN MAN: Of course not. It's the brains that go to sleep, and you haven't got any.

SCARECROW: But we can't leave them here.

TIN MAN: How can we wake them.

SCARECROW: I don't know, but we must.

*Dorothy and Lion asleep, snore.*

*The Snow Queen enters.*

SNOW QUEEN: Who calls me! (Sees Dorothy) This girl and her companions in the deadly grasp of these treacherous blossoms. Heartless and poisonous flowers, dare you defy the power of the Snow Queen! Defy me, who rules the North Wind and holds the Frost King as a willing subject? For this you shall die. For this shall I cloud the sunshine, which is your breath, and chill the warmth which gives you life. Hail, winds of the frozen north! Come to my aid! Embrace these false blossoms, and wither them with your cold caresses! King of the Frost, you do I invoke in this, my hour of vengeance. Hurl your glittering atoms upon these cruel flowers. Congeal their sap of life, and set upon them the icy seal of your freezing kiss, which kills as surely as does their own treacherous breath. Thus shall my enemies perish! Thus shall I restore to life these mortals who now sleep!

*Snow Queen on high platform C. holding her hands out towards the audience.*

*Snow falls from her hands.*

*Characters are posed R. and L. with Dorothy in C. of stage.*

*She slowly rises, turns and sees the Snow Queen and drops on her knee.*

End of Act I

Act II

Scene: the Emerald City

*The Wizard is seated on a throne.*

WIZARD: (writing on a paper) I will give my crown to anyone so I can go back to Omaha. On the level, as a wizard, I'm a humbug and tired of this king business. Wishing to keep this secret, I have issued this proclamation. Signed, the Wizard of Oz, King of the Emerald City.

*The Guard enters with Citizens.*

GUARD: All hail the Wizard of Oz!

CITIZENS: Long live the king!

WIZARD: My dear subjects, today shall be my last day as your king. To commemorate my retirement, I shall perform some amazing feats of magic.

*Guard brings out a table.*

WIZARD: I'll first show you this ordinary wand. (takes out a wand) It's not gimmicked in any way shape or form. I'll now attempt to make the wand jiggle like rubber. Watch carefully now.

*The Wizard does business with the wand.*

WIZARD: I'll now show you this ordinary blue sack. (takes out sack) There's nothing in it, with the exception of this white kerchief. (removes kerchief from sack and replaces it) I'll now attempt to make an egg appear within the sack. Impossible I hear you say? We shall see.

*The Wizard does business with the sack.*

WIZARD: I will now show you a juggling trick.

*The Wizard juggles the balls.*

WIZARD: I shall now attempt...(reveals cups and balls) the cups and ball trick. I start with three cups nested in a stack. The cups are set down in a line with three balls visible. I put one ball on top of the centre cup and the other two cups nested above. With a tap of my wand, I lift the three cups, revealing that the ball has penetrated the cup. Again I set the cups in a line, the middle cup covering the ball which has already penetrated. Another of the visible balls is placed on top of the centre cup and covered with the other two cups, the cups being tapped and lifted to show the second ball has penetrated. This will be repeated with the third ball.

*The Wizard does business with the cups and balls.*

WIZARD: Piece de resistance, I will attempt to swallow a sword.

*The Wizard does business with the sword.*

WIZARD: Thank you, thank you! That was merely an appetizer.

*Crowd exit.*

SONG: With a Flair

WIZARD: Oh, it really doesn't matter what I do, what I do  
As long as I do it with a flair  
What effect a little smoke is with a dash of hocus pocus  
And the scent of burning sulfur in the air  
I'm a fraud, a hoke, a charlatan, a joke,  
But they love me...everywhere.  
For it really doesn't matter what I do, what I do  
As long as I do it with a flair  
And it really doesn't matter what I say, what I say  
As long as I say it with a flair!  
First I rattle off a ready stock of gibberish and poppycock  
and fix you with my best hypnotic stare.  
With my moans and groans and soporific tones  
They have cheered me everywhere!  
For, it really doesn't matter what I say, what I say  
I said it when I tell it with a seamless selabin  
The magician's nursery rhyme  
Abracadabra! You succumb to it, every time!  
Wave a stick, and each trick, will mystify and disarm.  
In fact, to coin a fitting phrase, it works, like a charm!  
So, it really doesn't matter what I brew, what I brew  
As long as I brew it with a flair.  
Though I've never cast a magic spell  
I make the motions very well  
My showmanship is far beyond compare.  
I'm a rogue, a rake, a mountebank, a fake,  
But I do whate'er I dare.  
For, it really doesn't matter what I do, what I do...  
You buy my charms and poxes  
Cause they come in fancy boxes!  
To improve your ugly daughter,  
I've a vial of colored water!  
And my magic incantations  
Can be framed as decorations,

Though there's really nothing to it,  
And of course, you all see through it,  
You love me cause I do it, with a flair!

GUARD: (enters) Some people want to meet you.

WIZARD: Bring them in.

GUARD: Please enter. (exits)

*Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man and Lion enter.*

DOROTHY: Are you the Wizard of Oz?

WIZARD: Am I the Wizard of Oz? See for yourself. (takes a coin from his pocket, make it vanish in his hands and pulls it from Dorothy's ear) Looks simple, doesn't it. (pockets the coin) State your names and your business.

DOROTHY: I'm Dorothy Gale, this is the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Lion.

SCARECROW: I wish for a brain.

TIN MAN: I wish for a heart.

LION: I wish for some courage.

DOROTHY: I wish to go back to Kansas.

WIZARD: (to Scarecrow) Why, anybody can have a brain. That's a very mediocre commodity. Every pusillanimous creature that crawls on the earth or slinks through slimy seas has a brain! Back where I come from we have universities, seats of great learning, where men go to become great thinkers. And when they come out, they think deep thoughts and with no more brains than you have....But! They have one thing you haven't got! A diploma! (reaches back and obtains several diplomas, selecting one, then presents it to Scarecrow) Therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Universitatus Committeatum e plurbis unum, I hereby confer upon you the honorary degree of PhD.

SCARECROW: PhD.?

WIZARD: Yeah -- that...that's Doctor of Philosophy!

The Scarecrow recites the Pythagoras Theorem -- reacts with joy --

SCARECROW: The sum of the square roots of any two sides of an isosceles triangle is equal to the square root of the remaining side. Oh joy, rapture! I've got a brain! How can I ever thank you enough?

WIZARD: Well, you can't. (to Lion) As for you, you're a victim of disorganized thinking. You are under the unfortunate delusion that simply because you run away from danger, you have no courage. You're confusing courage with wisdom. Back where I come from, we have men who are called heroes. Once a year, they take their fortitude out of mothballs and parade it down the main street of the city. And they have no more courage than you have. But! They have one thing that you

haven't got! A medal! Therefore -- for meritorious....(presents a medal to Lion)...conduct, extraordinary valor, conspicuous bravery, I award you the Triple Cross. You are now a member of the Legion of Courage!

LION: Oh -- Oh -- shucks, folks, I'm speechless!

WIZARD: (to Tin Man) As for you, you want a heart! You don't know how lucky you are not to have one. Hearts will never be practical until they can be made unbreakable.

TIN MAN: But I still want one.

WIZARD: Back where I come from there are men who do nothing all day but good deeds. They are called philanthropist. And their hearts are no bigger than yours. But! They have one thing you haven't got! A testimonial! (presents a heart-shaped watch to Tin Man) Therefore, in consideration of your kindness, I take pleasure at this time in presenting you with a small token of our esteem and affection. And remember, my sentimental friend, that a heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others.

*Tin Man listens to his watch, then holds it up to Dorothy's ear.*

TIN MAN: Ahh --- Oh, it ticks! Listen!

LION: Read...read what my medal says. Courage! Ain't it the truth! Ain't it the truth!

DOROTHY: And me? How can I go home?

WIZARD: I'm afraid that passes to Kansas have sold out. (takes off crown and don a topper) As for me, my last day as king has been a good one.

*Guard enters.*

GUARD: Someone wants to meet you.

WIZARD: Bring him in.

*Pastoria enters.*

WIZARD: State your name and business.

PASTORIA: I am Pastoria II. I was the King of the Emerald City before a man in a balloon came. He perform many illusions for me and my court. He then lured me into the balloon and I went adrift. It took me a long time, but now I've returned to denounce the mountebank known as the Wizard of Oz.

WIZARD: I'm the Wizard that you seek.

PASTORIA: I demand you to hand over my crown for I am the rightful King of the Emerald City. The consequences will be dire if you refuse.

WIZARD: (Scarecrow hands him the crown) You're in luck, sire. For I'm retiring as King. The crown is now yours. You may rule the Emerald City in my stead. (places the crown on Pastoria)

PASTORIA: Bow to your king.

*All bow.*

WIZARD: And where's the balloon that you traveled in?

PASTORIA: It's outside in the courtyard.

WIZARD: Forgive the hastiness but I must go. Goodbye to you all.  
Goodbye. (exits)

PASTORIA: As rightful King of the Emerald City, I shall greet my  
subjects. (exits)

DOROTHY: Now that you got your wishes granted, how do I get my wish  
granted?

*Glinda enters.*

GLINDA: Fear not, for I am Glinda, the witch of the south. I have come  
to help you.

DOROTHY: Oh, Glinda, please help me! Now everybody has what they  
wished for, except me. Help me go home, please.

GLINDA: Oh Dorothy, if you only knew! The power is inside you. It has  
been inside you all along. The shoes that you are wearing can take you  
anywhere you wish to go.

DOROTHY: How can my shoes take me home?.

GLINDA: All you have to do is tap your heels together three times, and  
say to yourself the place you want to go.

DOROTHY: Oh, but first I have to say goodbye to my friends. Oh, my  
good friends I will miss you so much!

SCARECROW: I will miss you too. And thanks to you my brain will help  
me think of you and never forget you.

TIN MAN: And me, I will keep you in my heart.

LION: And I will always have courage to fight in your name.

GLINDA: Are you ready?

DOROTHY: Yes. I'm ready.

SONG: Home Sweet Home

DOROTHY: 'Mid pleasures and palaces

Though we may roam,

Be it ever so humble,

There's no place like home.

A charm from the skies

Seems to hallow us there,

Which seek thro' the world,

Is ne'er met with elsewhere.

Home, home, sweet sweet home,

There's no place like home,

There's no place like home.

End of Play