

ACT ONE — SCENE 7 - Witch Appears

The explosion turns out to be the arrival in Munchkinland of the WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST clutching her broomstick.

DOROTHY. I thought you said she was dead.

GLINDA. That was her sister — the Wicked Witch of the East.

This is the Wicked Witch of the West. And she's worse than the other one was.

WEST WITCH. Where's my sister?

GLINDA. Yonder she lies.

WEST WITCH. Alright, who's the smart aleck that turned her into a house? Was it you, Glinda?

GUNDA. Not the house. Under the house.

WEST WITCH. Under the house?

DOROTHY. It's my fault. I'm so sorry. My house dropped on Her.

WEST WITCH. You dropped your house on my sister? How could anyone be so unbelievably clumsy?

GLINDA. (Pointing to the legs) Look closer?

The WITCH OF THE WEST approaches the house and suddenly sees the legs and the ruby slippers. She screams in anguish.

WEST WITCH. Aaargh!

GLINDA. You recognized her then.

WEST WITCH. Of course I recognized her. Who else would wear ruby slippers with those socks? The Ruby Slippers! (Turns on DOROTHY)

Little girl, you have done me a service. I shall don the ruby slippers which will make my powers greater than ever.

The WEST WITCH turns towards the ruby slippers in time to see them and the legs wearing them vanish.

WEST WITCH. The ruby slippers! They're gone! The slippers! What have you done with them?

GLINDA. See for yourself. Step forward, Dorothy.

WEST WITCH. Give them back to me or I'll —

GLINDA. It's too late! There they are, and there they'll stay!

WEST WITCH. Give me back those slippers! I'm the only one that knows how to use them. They're of no use to you. Give them back to me. Give them back!

GLINDA. Keep tight inside of them. Their magic must be very powerful or she wouldn't want them so badly.

WEST WITCH. You stay out of this, Glinda, or I'll fix you as well!

GLINDA. Oh fiddle-faddle! You have no power while I'm here. Be gone, before somebody drops a house on you, too!

WEST WITCH. Very well, I'll bide my time and as for you, my fine lady, it's true I can't attend to you here and now as I'd like. But after a suitable period of mourning, I will have those slippers and my revenge too. So best try to stay out of my way. Just try! I'll get you eventually, my pretty...

(Prepares to vanish} And your little dog, too!

Chuckling in anticipation, the WEST WITCH throws up her hands and vanishes with a shriek in an explosion and pillar of smoke.

The MUNCHKINS throw themselves onto the ground in terror.

GLINDA. It's all right. You can get up. She's gone. I'm afraid you've made rather a bad enemy of the Wicked Witch of the West. The sooner you get out of Oz altogether, the safer you'll sleep, my dear.

DOROTHY. Oh, I'd give anything to get out of Oz altogether. My Auntie Em is missing me. She may even be ill. But — which is the way back to Kansas? I can't go the way I came.

GLINDA. No, that's true. The only person who might know would be the great and wonderful Wizard of Oz himself!

DOROTHY. The Wizard of Oz? Is he good, or is he wicked?

GLINDA. Oh, very good, but very mysterious. He lives in the Emerald City, and that's a long journey from here. Did you bring your broomstick with you?

DOROTHY. No, I'm afraid I didn't.

GLINDA. Well, then, you'll have to walk. The Munchkins will see you safely to the border of Munchkinland. And remember, never let those ruby slippers off your feet for a moment, or you will be at the mercy of the Wicked Witch of the West.

DOROTHY. But — how do I start for the Emerald City?

GLINDA. It's always best to start at the beginning — and all you do is follow the Yellow Brick Road.