

TOTO TOO

by Ken Bradbury



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Five characters: Dorothy, Tinman, Lion, Witch, and Max. Dorothy should probably be played by a girl, but the other characters can be portrayed by actors of either gender.

DOROTHY: (*entering*) Come on! Come on! Hurry up!

TINMAN: (*entering with Lion, both struggling to put on imaginary costumes*) I'm coming! I'm coming!

LION: This thing itches!

DOROTHY: The show starts in five minutes! Come on, guys.

TINMAN: This show drives me crazy. Whose idea was it to do The Wizard of Oz?

DOROTHY: My mom's. She's the director and she picks the shows, and ...

LION: ... and she wanted her daughter to play Dorothy.

DOROTHY: You got a problem with that? Who else has my talent?

TINMAN: But why do I have to be the Tin Man? This silver paint is gonna ruin my beautiful complexion.

LION: You oughta be wearing this lion outfit. Where'd they get this thing?

DOROTHY: I think it's the rug out of the nurse's office.

LION: Then that's why I'm itching. It's got diseases all over it.

DOROTHY: The orchestra's starting!

MAX: (*running in*) You guys ready? We've got a full house tonight! I mean the place is just packed!

LION: How am I supposed to scratch in front of 300 people? (*to Tin Man*) Will you scratch me if I start itching?

TINMAN: I can't. I've got silver paint all over my hands.

MAX: So? You ready?

DOROTHY: Yeah ... as soon as we get ... (*looks around*) Where's Toto?

MAX: Toto?

DOROTHY: My dog! Where'd you put Toto?

MAX: (*going to look in an imaginary cage*) He was right
... Oh, no.

TINMAN: What?

MAX: His cage is open. He got out. He's escaped.

LION: Lucky dog.

MAX: I put him right here this afternoon! I swear!

DOROTHY: You're the stage manager, Max. You're supposed to check the props!

LION: Hey, that dog hated this show anyway. Last night at dress rehearsal he kept growling and chewing on my fur.

DOROTHY: We can't do The Wizard of Oz without Toto!

TINMAN: Find another dog!

MAX: Where am I supposed to find another dog? We've got two minutes 'til the curtain!

LION: No problem. Cancel the show. "The performance of The Wizard of Oz will be cancelled tonight due to a missing puppy. Toto's gone AWOL. Get your money back at the door and have a nice day."

DOROTHY: (*grabbing Max, threateningly*) Listen, I've waited my whole life to play Dorothy and I'm not going to have it ruined by a stage manager who can't keep track of a stupid dog! Now do something about it!

TINMAN: Hear that? That's our cue!

DOROTHY: (*to Max*) Do something!

MAX: What?

DOROTHY: You!

MAX: Huh?

DOROTHY: You're Toto.

MAX: I am not!

DOROTHY: You are now!

LION: They're signaling us to go on!

DOROTHY: Do it!

MAX: No!

DOROTHY: DO IT! (*and she not-too-gently pushes him down to all fours*) Curtain up! (*in character*) Wow! The wonderful Land of Oz! Isn't it wonderful? I said, "Isn't it

wonderful?” Toto? Didn’t you hear me? Isn’t it wonderful? (*She gives Max a little kick.*)

MAX: Arf!

TINMAN: Toto sounds sick.

LION: Oh! Oh! Look up in the sky! It’s the Wicked Witch!

TINMAN & DOROTHY: The Wicked Witch! (*and again, Dorothy kicks Max*)

MAX: Arf! Arf!

DOROTHY: Let’s run!

TINMAN: Yes! Let’s run! (*The group begins running in place.*)

LION: I’m scared!

TINMAN: I’m rusting!

DOROTHY: I want to go back to Kansas! Wait! (*They all stop running.*) We’re safe now in this forest.

LION: What happened to Toto?

TINMAN: He can’t keep up. Come on, boy! Get up here! (*Max crosses wearily to them.*) Dorothy, I think you need a new dog. Toto’s one pooped puppy.

DOROTHY: But wait! I hear the Munchkins in the distance!

TINMAN & LION: The Munchkins! (*they all hold a pose for a moment, then ...*)

DOROTHY: (*They all move off a few steps to indicate off-stage.*) Okay, we’re off stage. Max, you’ve got to keep up with us! You’re ruining the show!

MAX: (*standing*) I have never been so embarrassed in my life.

WITCH: (*entering*) Where’s Toto? Our scene’s next!

TINMAN: (*indicating Max*) Meet the new Toto.

WITCH: I liked the old one better. That’s one ugly dog.

MAX: Funny.

WITCH: (*to Max*) Okay, when I raise my witch’s broom you’ve got to bark. Got it?

MAX: I’m not going out there again.

TINMAN: The Munchkins are almost done.

WITCH: Is this the only dog you could find?



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