

## Document Citation

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**T**he *Wizard of Oz* is one of the best-loved films of any genre. When Dorothy opens the door of her farmhouse, and black-and-white Kansas gives way to the riotous Technicolor of Oz, the magic is there. Many of its songs are classics, and its release in 1939 made Judy Garland an international star. Several generations of moviegoers have come to cherish the Cowardly Lion, the Straw Man, and the Tin Man.

The wonder of *The Wizard of Oz* is that it works so perfectly, despite enough production problems to sink most films. The film went through four directors (though Victor Fleming received sole credit), several major cast changes (Shirley Temple had been first choice for Dorothy, but the deal fell through; Buddy Ebsen started as the Tin Man but dropped out due to an allergic reaction to his make-up), numerous rewrites, and a total of 9,200 actors!

Here, in a composition that displays both the detail and whimsy of the film, the intrepid travellers approach the Emerald City. From left to right: Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, Bert Lahr, and Jack Haley. *The Wizard of Oz*—Directed by Victor Fleming. Choreographed by Bobby Connolly. Music and lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. "Yip" Harburg. Musical adaptation by Herbert Stothart. Written by Noel Langley, Florence Ryerson, and Edgar Allan Woolf, based on the stories of L. Frank Baum. With: Judy Garland, Frank Morgan, Ray Bolger, Bert Lahr, Jack Haley, Billie Burke, Margaret Hamilton, and Toto. 1939, color, 100 minutes, MGM.