

# ACT ONE — SCENE 13

## Poppies.

*As DOROTHY, SCARECROW, TINMAN and LION dance off, a great white cloth descends. They reappear as giant figures silhouetted against the cloth, then dance away from the light source and so seem to grow smaller and smaller. When THE FOUR FRIENDS are close behind the cloth, a projection of the WICKED WITCH looms above them, looking down at their little dancing figures. Music segues.*

### No. 24

### Poppies

See p. 124

(Glinda, Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman, Lion  
and Chorus: Girls/Poppikins, Boys/Snowmen)

*Music continues under dialogue.*

WEST WITCH. There is nothing so depressing as boundless optimism. Happily it is totally misplaced. Now, shall I squash them out like the interfering bugs they are, or shall I be witty and creative? The bug alternative is attractive but messy. So witty and creative wins the day. A-hah! Something with poison in it, I think. With poison in it, but attractive to the eye — and soothing to the smell! Poppies! Poppies! Poppies!

*The screen begins to fill with huge red poppies and soothing siren music is heard.*

WEST WITCH. This lethal lullaby will put them to sleep forever. And then the Ruby Slippers will be ... *(The Witch suddenly leans forward so her mouth and eyes fill the whole screen. She screams the last word.)*  
... MINE!!!!

*Blackout as the cloth is whisked away.*

*When the lights come up the stage is covered with POPPIKINS.*

*Suggested staging for Poppies: A dozen actors wear cloaks which are in fact circular; on the outside green and covered with poppies but inside white and covered with snowflake designs. When first seen they are stretched face down on stage forming a human carpet of Poppies. When snow begins to fall they will turn the cloaks inside out and reveal the white sparkling innards.*

DOROTHY and OTHERS enter.

DOROTHY. This Yellow Brick Road seems to go on forever.

SCARECROW. If you're tired Dorothy, we can take a short-cut.

TINMAN. The road curves round this Poppy field.  
We can cut through and pick up on the other side.

SCARECROW. Let's go.

*The FRIENDS start to wade through the Poppies.*

DOROTHY. I've never seen such beautiful Poppies.

LION. I think Poppies are my favorite flower.

DOROTHY. (*Dreamily*) The smell is so wonderful. And the singing ...

LION. I can hear it too. It sounds just like the heavenly semaphores.

*DOROTHY suddenly stops and clutches her forehead.*

DOROTHY. Oh-oh — what's happening? What is it? (*Reels*)  
I can't walk anymore. I'm so ... (*Yawns and stretches*) ... sleepy.  
(*Sits down amongst the POPPIES.*)

SCARECROW. Here, give us your hands and we'll pull you along.

DOROTHY. Oh, no, please. I have to rest for just a minute. (*Puts TOTO down beside her.*)  
You lay there, Toto. We can have a little sleep together.

SCARECROW. Oh, you can't rest now. We've got to go on.

*DOROTHY curls up for sleep.*

LION. Come to think of it, forty winks wouldn't be a bad idea.

*The LION flops inelegantly to the ground.*

SCARECROW. Don't you start too!

TINMAN. It's the poppies. That's what's doing it. (*Starts to weep.*)

SCARECROW. Don't cry — you'll rust yourself again! This is a spell, this is!

TINMAN. It's the Wicked Witch! What'll we do? Help! Help!

*The TINMAN rusts up again.*

SCARECROW. It's no use screaming at a time like this.  
Nobody will hear you! Help! Help! Help! Help!

*The globe containing GLINDA is lowered from the flies.*

GLINDA. I hear you, Scarecrow. And though I can't undo the magic of the  
Wicked Witch, perhaps a little magic of my own will save the day.

*GLINDA waves her wand and it starts to snow. The golden globe,  
with GLINDA inside again, rises into the flies. Gradually the  
POPPIKINS are transformed into white snow-flakes.*

SCARECROW. It's snowing!

*DOROTHY starts to wake up.*

DOROTHY. Oh, oh.

*The LION sits bolt upright.*

LION. Ah-ah. Unusual weather we're having, ain't it?

*The SCARECROW notices the rusted TINMAN.*

SCARECROW. Oh, no, he's rusted again! Give me the oil can, quick!

DOROTHY. I don't have the oil can.

LION. I just realized something.

SCARECROW. What?

LION. I'm sitting on it.

*The LION reaches under himself and brings out the oil can.  
The SCARECROW takes it and starts to oil the TINMAN.*

LION. Boy, those poppies are powerful stuff. I didn't feel a thing.

*The TINMAN comes alive and turns to DOROTHY.  
DOROTHY starts to shiver and hugs TOTO for warmth.  
The LION gets to his feet.*

TINMAN. Dorothy, you're awake.

*GLINDA enters upstage. THE FOUR FRIENDS turn towards her.*

GLINDA. My white magic has done its work. (*Waves her wand and the snow stops.*)  
Journey's end is now in sight. (*Waves her wand again. Clouds part,  
light fills the stage and the Emerald City appears in the distance.*)

DOROTHY. The Emerald City! Oh, we're almost there at last! At last!

GLINDA. (*Sings*)

You're out of the woods,  
You're out of the dark,  
You're out of the night.  
Step into the sun,  
Step into the light.  
Keep straight ahead  
For the most glorious place  
On the face of the earth or the sky.  
Hold onto your breath,  
Hold onto your heart,  
Hold onto your hope.

GIRLS CHORUS.

You're out of the woods,  
You're out of the dark,  
You're out of the night.  
Step into the sun,  
Step into the light.

*The music continues under dialogue.*

DOROTHY. It's beautiful, isn't it? Just like I knew it would be. He really must be a wonderful Wizard to live in a city like that!

SCARECROW. Well, come on, then.

TINMAN. What are you waiting for?

LION. On to Oz!

DOROTHY. To Oz!

ALL. To Oz!

*The song leads into a reprise of "We're off to see the Wizard".  
THE FOUR FRIENDS circle the stage and then turn towards  
Emerald City as the curtain falls on the End of Act One.*

DOROTHY. We're off to see the Wizard

SCARECROW. We're off to see the Wizard

TINMAN. We're off to see the Wizard

LION. We're off to see the Wizard

ALL FOUR. The wonderful Wizard of Oz!

ENSEMBLE. Ah, ah!

*END OF ACT ONE.*

# ACT TWO — SCENE 1

Outside the gates of the Emerald City.

**No. 26-I**                      **Entr'acte — part one**                      *See p. 131*  
(Orchestra)

**No. 26-II**                      **Entr'acte — part two**                      *See p. 131*  
and "Optimistic Voices"  
(Orchestra with offstage Girls Chorus)

GIRLS CHORUS. (*Offstage*)

You're out of the woods,  
You're out of the dark,  
You're out of the night.

Step into the sun,  
Step into the light.

Keep straight ahead  
For the most glorious place  
On the face of the earth or the sky.

Hold onto your breath,  
Hold onto your heart,  
Hold onto your hope.

March up to the gate  
And bid it open, open!

*OUR FOUR TRAVELERS are discovered with their backs to the audience, gazing up at the Walls of Emerald City in which are set a pair of great gates. Music continues under the dialogue.*

DOROTHY. Have you ever seen anywhere so beautiful?

SCARECROW. The walls are so high.

*The LION clutches his brow and staggers.*

LION. I'm getting giddy just looking at 'em.

*DOROTHY turns and supports the LION.*

TINMAN. Ring the bell, Scarecrow. Let them know we're here.

SCARECROW. Okay. (*The SCARECROW crosses to the bell pull.*) Here goes.

*The SCARECROW pulls the bell, and somewhere a long way off, it jangles loudly. Music out. Almost immediately a trap window in the gate, close to the Lion's position, bangs open. The city GUARD (UNCLE HENRY) looks out.*