



English 8: Reading: Module 2: Lesson 7: Section 2

Characters and Staging in Drama

Passage 1: Excerpt from *The Wizard of Oz*

Instructions: Read the passage below. Return to the lesson when you are finished.

The Wizard of Oz

By Noel Langley, Florence Ryerson and Edgar Allen Woolf

(Based on the novel by L. Frank Baum)

(Dorothy carrying suitcase and basket, then Dorothy and Toto walking to right across bridge. Toto runs forward down path. Lettering on wagon:

PROFESSOR MARVEL

ACCLAIMED BY

The CROWNED HEADS of EUROPE

Let Him Read Your PAST, PRESENT, and FUTURE
In His Crystal Also Juggling and Sleight of Hand

Dorothy enters — reads sign — reacts to Professor humming offstage. Professor steps down out of wagon — sees Dorothy — speaks to her as he crosses to fire at left. Dorothy comes forward. Professor sits by fire.)



Source: professor marvel and Dorothy of Oz, sdrurydrama, Flickr

PROFESSOR

And who might you be? No, no, now don't tell me. Let's see. You're travelling in disguise. No, that's not right. You're - you're going on a visit. No, I'm wrong. You're, you're - running away.

DOROTHY

How did you guess?

PROFESSOR

Ha ha! Professor Marvel never guesses. He knows! Ha ha! Now, why are you running away?

DOROTHY

Why —

PROFESSOR

No, no, now don't tell me. They - they don't understand you at home. They don't appreciate you. You want to see other lands, big cities, big mountains, big oceans. Ha ha!

DOROTHY

Why, it's just like you could read what was inside of me.

(Professor and Dorothy by fire — Professor roasting wiener on stick)

PROFESSOR

Yes.