

Lost in Oz: The Mini-Series Part 5

By

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Lost in Oz by Joshua Patrick Dudley.

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EXT. TOP OF A MOUNTAIN IN OZ - NIGHT

Joshua and Tommy reach the top of the mountain and they collapse to rest. They are exhausted and out of breath.

JOSHUA

That was probably the craziest thing I have ever done. I feel like I might die.

TOMMY

I know what you mean. I'm so dizzy I might pass out. I just need to find some water.

Tommy begins to rise to his feet then clutches his head and stumbles.

Joshua tries to save Tommy from falling, but it's too late and Tommy knocks Joshua down with him.

They roll down the top of the mountain then fall over the edge.

A large landing lies about 20 feet down and they both smack into it hard.

Joshua instantly jumps to his feet but Tommy continues to lay there.

One firm slap across the face and Tommy shoots into a sitting position.

He mumbles some unrecognizable phrases, then goes blank and stares at Joshua. His mouth is gaping open, so Joshua gently shuts it for him with another slap.

TOMMY (cont'd)

Okay, Okay, I'm awake. And I don't think slapping me is a good way to wake me up. What if I already had a concussion?

JOSHUA

We need a game plan. How far do you think we are from the witch's castle?

Tommy doesn't even verbalize an answer. He simply points in the direction Joshua's back is facing.

Turning around Joshua sees that they are on the same level as the castle and can see into its hundreds of tiny windows. Inside, slaves clean, sew, cook and labor.

(CONTINUED)

Every window seems to have its own slave, who every few seconds glances out of it in hopes of escaping. There is no hope. It's written all over their faces. They've all given up.

TOMMY

There!

Tommy taps Joshua's shoulder in rapid succession.

JOSHUA

There, what?

TOMMY

Tamara and Laura. They're on the second floor, in the fifth window from the right.

Sure enough, gazing into the tiny window Joshua can see his sister, looking out the window crying.

Her face is nestled deep inside her hands, but her long flowing red hair gives her away.

JOSHUA

Okay, Tommy. We're going in.

TOMMY

How?

JOSHUA

There are stones sticking out all over that wall. We're gonna scale it and get Tam and Laura and climb back down with them.

TOMMY

Okay, Spider-Man! Yeah right! That'll never work.

JOSHUA

Anything is worth a try. Let's go.

They begin to walk toward the castle and as Joshua looks up to Tamara's window again, he steps forward and his foot doesn't make contact with anything.

He's gone over an edge that he didn't even see.

Tommy's screams inform us that he's just made the same stupid choice and soon they both land on top of one another, hitting the ground with a loud thud.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA (cont'd)
Well, that was just genius of me,
don't you think?

In return, Tommy shoots him a look of disgust.

JOSHUA (cont'd)
At least it wasn't too far of a
drop...

As they begin to rise to their feet and dust themselves off,
Joshua takes a sharp blow to the head.

Dropping back down to the ground, he lets out a small
whimper of pain.

We hear Tommy's body smack to the ground as well.

CHARGOFF
Trespassers are to be killed on the
spot!

Joshua uses the rest of his strength to lift his head from
the ground to see who hit them.

His eyes meet a burly man's eyes. He's dressed all in
yellow, as some sort of army general, and has a strange
looking blunt weapon in his hand.

Standing behind him are others, all in the same yellow
uniforms, holding the same weapons in a wall of defense.

A piercing cackle breaks the silence and the witch descends
from the sky. She lands with a gentle tap and steps off her
broom.

We can't see her face. All we can see is her silhouette: a
short woman in a dress with an impossibly-tall pointed hat,
and black and white striped socks.

JOSHUA
Those socks clash with your outfit.

WICKED WITCH
Well, if it isn't the heroic
brother, here to save his sister.
You'll pay for your stupidity.

She paces back and forth for another short moment, until she
divvies out her commands.

WICKED WITCH (cont'd)

Take them both to the dungeon. Make sure his sister doesn't see that they've arrived. Take special care of the one with red hair; I need him alive if I am to derail the prophecy. You can put them to work when they wake up.

JOSHUA

(defiantly)

I'm still awake.

WICKED WITCH

Not anymore!

She kicks Joshua in the face, knocking him out cold.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. DUNGEONS OF THE WITCH'S CASTLE. OZ.

A loud whipping noise rings the blackness and the camera fades back from black, with a closeup on Joshua's face in pain.

Another cracking noise reverberates as a whip makes its second slice into Joshua's back.

He shoots to a sitting position but is instantly tugged back down to the ground as he discovers both his arms are chained to the wall.

JOSHUA

(lamenting)

Way to go Josh. Getting busted before Tamara even knows you're here.

We hear a match light and the flame of a candle flickers into focus.

A large man shrouded in black holds the now-smoking remnants of the match.

CHARGOFF

Glad to see you're awake. I'm Chargoff, the slave keeper.

JOSHUA

Well, hi.

(CONTINUED)

Chargoff crosses the room and lights a second candle, hanging from a small, wooden sconce in the middle of the cell.

CHARGOFF

Sorry about the whipping. Witch's orders.

Joshua lets out a small laugh and Chargoff turns to snarl directly in his face.

JOSHUA

I'm sorry for laughing. I've just never heard a slave master apologize for beating one of the prisoners.

CHARGOFF

I hope you understand, this is not my choice to treat anyone like this. I myself, am a slave.

JOSHUA

I'm sorry to hear that. I truly am. Maybe we can make a deal. What if I told you I know how to kill the witch?

CHARGOFF

There is no way to kill the Witch of the West or it would already be done.

JOSHUA

Listen, Charcoal is it?

CHARGOFF

Chargoff.

JOSHUA

Chargoff, I would honestly swear on the life of everyone in Oz that I know how to defeat her.

CHARGOFF

(impatiently)

How?

JOSHUA

If I told you, where would the fun be? I won't tell you until you promise to help me out.

(pause)

(CONTINUED)

CHARGOFF

What do you want me to do?

JOSHUA

I need information on where my friends are and how to get out of the castle.

CHARGOFF

No one knows how to escape the castle, but your friends are all in the cell next to you. The witch had you put in a separate cell because she considered you the biggest threat.

JOSHUA

I need to talk with my friends. Is there a way you can let me into their cell?

CHARGOFF

There is no way I can allow you to leave your cell.

JOSHUA

I see.

CHARGOFF

However, there is a loose stone in the wall that connects your cell to that of your friends. With ample force I'm sure you could pull it out.

JOSHUA

(shouting in excitement)

Thank you!!!!

CHARGOFF

You did not get that information from me. Now, speaking of information, you must tell me how to kill the witch. I fulfilled my half of the agreement and it's time you do the same.

JOSHUA

Water, you throw water on her and she's a goner.

Chargoff pauses for a moment, staring at Joshua in discontent.

(CONTINUED)

CHARGOFF

Do you really expect me to believe that the all-powerful witch can be killed with something as simple as water? That is just ridiculous! Liar!

JOSHUA

No, really it's true.

CHARGOFF

You will receive no more help from me, young sir. I do not like to be lied to and I shall not help you any longer.

With a final glare of disapproval, Chargoff exits through a large wooden door and slams it shut behind him.

Joshua reaches into his pocket and pulls out a paper-clip and picks the locks on his ropes.

Joshua rushes to the wall he's been dying to get to and begins punching and kicking it in frenzy and soon his foot connects with a wobbly stone.

He kicks it again and again and soon it wobbles enough to be freed. Laying my back on the ground, he raises both legs in the air and with one swift kick sends the stone flying into the cell next to him.

Tamara and Laura scream, as the large stone slams to the floor and cracks into a few slightly smaller pieces next to them.

TAMARA

What was that?

Joshua sticks his head into the small opening and peers into their cell.

Tamara and Laura sit in a corner, huddled together for protection.

Tommy, still unconscious, lies before them. Not one of them is restrained to the wall.

JOSHUA

(whispers)

Hey guys!

(CONTINUED)

TAMARA
It's Josh!

She crawls over to the wall until they sit face to face.

TAMARA (cont'd)
What happened? How'd you get
through the wall?

JOSHUA
The slave driver told me how. All I
had to do was tell him how to kill
the witch.

TAMARA
(offended)
You what?

JOSHUA
Don't worry. He didn't believe me
anyway.

TAMARA
Oh good. Now how do we get out of
here?

JOSHUA
I have no idea. I didn't get that
much information from him. He's not
the coolest guy on the block, you
know with the whippings and all.

Without warning, the rocks begin to tumble down into the
open hall and the walls fall apart.

When the dust and rubble clears, a path is open to the
hallways from the cells.

JOSHUA (cont'd)
Well, that was easy. How
convenient. Seriously, like what
the odds of that happening? (beat)
Tamara, wake up Tommy and get Laura
and yourself ready.

TAMARA
Ready for what?

JOSHUA
To escape, you dummy. Just do what
I say.

Tommy rubs his eyes and yawns as Laura and Tamara get him to
his feet.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA (cont'd)

Follow me and stay close. We've got to do this fast, quietly and accurately. If I make a mistake, I'll tell you and we'll try another way. There won't be any backtalk or negative remarks. Got it?

ALL

Got it!

INT. VARIOUS HALLS IN THE WITCH'S CASTLE. OZ. NIGHT.

There are many dark passageways and hallways in this castle. Luckily for them, they are all devoid of life.

Joshua leads them down a narrow hall that only has one door at the end of it. Quickening their already steady pace, they run at the door and push through it.

INT. WITCHS THRONE ROOM. OZ. NIGHT.

This room is empty as well. Like the rest of the castle, its walls are made of stone and have minor ornamentation.

A large crystal ball sits before an immense window and resting on a podium directly next to it sits a large book.

In the moonlight Joshua can read the iridescent title, Spells and Incantations.

He lunges at the book and grasps it firmly in his hands.

Opening its leather-bound cover, he discovers handwritten spells, obviously written by the witch herself.

JOSHUA

There's no way out this way, but I'm taking this with me! Turn around and follow me.

EXT. BALCONY OUTSIDE THE WITCHS CASTLE. OZ. NIGHT.

Without a single word or argument, the group obeys and they take off back down the hall.

They run down the passage which leads them to an open balcony.

(CONTINUED)

The balcony seems to stretch around the entire castle, so they assume it's got to lead out at some point. Ahead in the distance we can see a set of stairs, leading down.

Joshua glances behind him and discovers Laura removing a bottle of water from her backpack, which surprisingly wasn't confiscated by the witch's guards. She passes it Tamara, who in turn passes it to Tommy, and finally it reaches Joshua. He drinks and they keep running.

From behind them, we hear a loud scream.

Without stopping, the four teens glance back to discover the witch zooming up to them on her broomstick.

She lets out another wail of defeat as she closes in, screaming words they've never heard.

WICKED WITCH
Duonie toutie forte!

She screams as lightning bursts from her outstretched umbrella and toward our group.

Bad aim and the lightning strikes the side of the castle.

As the bolts continue to fly and they continue to dodge them, Joshua opens the book he had stolen from the castle, reading the first words he sees.

JOSHUA
(screaming.)
Lisika danify solum.

A circle of fire surrounds the group.

They come to a screeching halt, hoping to avoid the flames.

The flames instantly move away from them.

TOMMY
Now that is cool!

LAURA
Seriously cool!

JOSHUA
Shut up and run!

They take off running again, the witch rises in front of them and shouts out a spell of her own.

WICKED WITCH

Alumina.

The flames around us die out.

ALL

Uh oh. Crap. Ahhhhh! etc...

The witch lands and approaches them.

Joshua tears pages from her book and shoves them into his pocket, unnoticed by the witch.

WICKED WITCH

This is the end of the road,
kiddies.

The witch lets out a cackle.

She lunges at them and rips the book from Joshua's hands and instantly it disappears.

She grabs Joshua in her hands and lifts him into the air as she levitates.

WICKED WITCH (cont'd)

You thought you could get away from
me?

Ignoring her, he glances back down to his friends who are growing smaller by the second as they zoom higher into the air.

WICKED WITCH (cont'd)

I am the almighty Witch of the
West. You can never escape me!

JOSHUA

Oh give it a rest. You're not that
special.

Her eyes ignite with anger and her yellowish skin seems to turn black.

Joshua quickly unscrews the cap on the bottle of water in his hands and lets the cap drop back to the ground.

He raises the bottle and jabs the open end of it directly into the witch's one good eye.

It begins to sizzle and pop as the water burns into the delicate area.

Her grip on him loosens and falls through the night sky.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA (cont'd)
That's for Scraps you stupid old--

His words are cut short.

His body slams into the castle floor. He's knocked unconscious.... yet again.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD - 3 DAYS LATER...

INT. DUNGEONS OF THE WITCH'S CASTLE IN OZ - DAY

Joshua awakes three days later and the entire castle is in a stir.

Joshua discovers that his entire body has been strapped to some sort of wooden frame. He squirms around trying to free himself, but it is no use.

TIN-MAN
(sullenly)
You're awake.

JOSHUA
(unable to see who's speaking)
Yeah. Who are you?

TIN-MAN
We've met but once before. I am Nick Chopper, the Tin Woodman. I travel with young Dorothy Gale.

JOSHUA
Yes, I remember.

TIN-MAN
You worked quite a spell on that witch, burning her eye so badly. How did you do it?

JOSHUA
What do you mean? It wasn't magic.

TIN-MAN
Surely you must know some secret that the rest of the world doesn't. How is it you know how to harm the Witch of the West?

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA
(irritated)
Listen, buddy. I don't know what
you're talking about and I'm not
answering any more questions.
Where's Dorothy?

TIN-MAN
The Witch has her. That's all I
know.

JOSHUA
I'd be better off talking to the
brainless straw man. Are you tied
up, Nick?

TIN-MAN
I'm afraid so.

JOSHUA
Great. This is just great.
(pause)How long have you been here?

TIN-MAN
We arrived the day after your
attack on the witch.

JOSHUA
So it's got to happen soon.

TIN-MAN
What does?

JOSHUA
Never mind!

TIN-MAN
I fear, I must admit, I don't trust
you.

JOSHUA
Excuse me? What are you talking
about, Tin-Man?

TIN-MAN
We conversed with the great Wizard
of Oz and he informed us you were
working with the witch.

JOSHUA
What? Seriously?

TIN-MAN

After we heard of your attack on the witch, we began to doubt it, but now I'm sure. You were placed here as a diversion.

JOSHUA

You're absolutely nuts. The witch is the wizard, you can't trust the talking head.

Joshua pounds the wooden table he's strapped to and the legs give way beneath him.

WIZARD OF OZ

(calmly)

You have nothing to worry about, son. (pause) Don't strain yourself, rest.

JOSHUA

Who are you?

WIZARD OF OZ

You wouldn't believe me if I told you.

JOSHUA

Try me.

WIZARD OF OZ

I am Oscar Diggs... the Wizard of Oz.

JOSHUA

I don't think so, friend. Nice try though.

WIZARD OF OZ

I told you that you wouldn't believe me.

JOSHUA

Sorry. I was hoping to prove you wrong, but I know that the wizard does not exist. It was merely a front put on by the witch to lure Dorothy to her castle.

TIN-MAN

So you are working with her! That proves it! How else would you know her plan?

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA

Hey, trashcan man, shut your mouth!

The Wizard begins to speak, but chokes on his words and continues to cough for sometime.

JOSHUA (cont'd)

That doesn't sound healthy.

WIZARD OF OZ

You wouldn't sound healthy if you had been locked down here for almost twenty or so years. Eighteen years, to be exact.

JOSHUA

You've been down here for eighteen years? I can't imagine. I'm 18 now, that would mean you spent my whole life in here. I'm so sorry. Why does the witch keep you?

WIZARD OF OZ

I told you, because I am the Wizard of Oz.

JOSHUA

Oh. Right. Well, Mr. Diggs. If you're so powerful, why haven't you released yourself from your restraints?

WIZARD OF OZ

I have no powers.

JOSHUA

I somehow doubt that. This whole place is magical.

WIZARD OF OZ

That's where you are wrong, my son. I have no magic powers. Much of Oz is Magic Free and it is actually against Ozma's law to use magic in Oz.

JOSHUA

What about the silver shoes from the witch of the east? They are magical. You could have used them to escape!

(CONTINUED)

WIZARD OF OZ

Indeed they are magical, but I had no way to get them. No one knows of their true origin. (pause) No one... except for me.

JOSHUA

Okay, wizard. How did the shoes come about I might as well listen to him; I have nothing else to do.

WIZARD OF OZ

They were a gift for my wife. You see, I'm not from the Land of Oz. I'm from Omaha, Nebraska, in the U.S. of A.

JOSHUA

Go on.

WIZARD OF OZ

So, you believe me?

JOSHUA

I'll humor you, but speak fast old man. I wanna take a nap. My head is killing me. This should make for a fascinating bed time story.

VARIOUS CLIPS OF THE STORY THE WIZARD NARRATES.

WIZARD OF OZ

About twenty-five years ago, I had just married my high school sweetheart. She was a doll. So perfect in everyway and she had a smile that could stop anyone in their tracks. Our life was perfect together. We'd spend our days laughing and remembering our favorite stories from our childhood. When we were in the mood, we'd cuddle in front of a roaring fire and tell one another of distant worlds. You know, playing make believe with each other.

TIN-MAN

Did you ever talk about Oz?

(CONTINUED)

WIZARD OF OZ

We never called it Oz, but lands much like it, yes. We'd sit for hours and daydream with one another about the things we'd do if we were lost in a place like this. She was so good at making the stories seem real, so excited about every little aspect. She'd say outrageous things like 'everything in this country is blue! Everything in this country is yellow! There is a city built entirely out of emeralds!' We'd laugh about how silly we were.

JOSHUA

That sounds a lot like Oz to me.

WIZARD OF OZ

Let me finish, son. (pause)
Finally, my wife announced that she was expecting my child and I sent a proclamation to all of my friends and family. This was to be the greatest event in my life and I wanted to share it with everyone I cared for. A friend of mine bought me a gift to celebrate our child. He bought us a hot air balloon, which I learned to fly and actually became something of an expert on aerial exploration in my balloon. My friend said that now we could go see the lands we talked so much about. Well, we were so excited we didn't take the time to learn how to fly one. We invited her sister to join us on our exciting travels, to which she happily agreed. So without any knowledge of the how or where, we set off of into the sky.

JOSHUA

Ooh, this is getting good.

WIZARD OF OZ

So we went up into the air, flying over countryside, mountains, meadows and oceans. The only problem was: we had no idea how to land the thing. The three of us--well four counting the baby--flew for days and then weeks,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WIZARD OF OZ (cont'd)
until finally we had run out of supplies. We lay in the basket of the balloon, holding each other on our deathbeds. Eventually we lost consciousness and woke up to find the dream lands we had talked about. We were being held in a city of emeralds where there were many people nursing us back to health, proclaiming I was grand and she was grand! We were all powerful! Of course we thought it was a joke, but come to find out, we possessed powers unlike any known. We could simply think about things and they'd happen. Because we weren't from the Land of Oz, when we crossed over something clicked inside us and we all felt it. So powerful, so strong.

JOSHUA
(shocked)
Wow. This all sounds so different. Not like the Oz I know. Anyways, back to the story.

WIZARD OF OZ
But my wife and her sister grew sick with power. They let the magic consume them; warp them. It turned them dark and evil.

JOSHUA
Where do the shoes come in?

WIZARD OF OZ
I'm getting there--if you'd let me finish. We don't have much time. I presented my wife with new shoes the day of our trip because she complained being pregnant made her feet hurt. So I went out and bought her the most luxurious pair of shoes I could find. After we arrived here in Oz, her sister discovered their power and took them and disappeared into the east. We never heard from her again.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA

Are you saying she's the witch of the east? The one that Dorothy's house killed? Wouldn't that make your wife...?

WIZARD OF OZ

Yes. The witch of the west is my wife. She wasn't always wicked, like I said. We were happy once.

JOSHUA

This has got to be some sort of alternate version of Oz. Nothing is supposed to be like this. If she's your wife, why are you locked in her dungeon?

WIZARD OF OZ

When the magic took her over, I did everything in my power to ensure that I undid anything wicked she might have caused. You see, it was like a drug to her--the magic. That's why its illegal in Oz. She couldn't help but use it. She still can't. Finally, I created a spell to strip her of her powers and stop her from causing any more damage. She was much smarter than I and planned ahead. While I warned all of the Emerald City that I, their wizard, was going to put a stop to the witch of the west, she was busy concocting a spell of her own.

JOSHUA

This is nuts.

WIZARD OF OZ

I cast the spell on her, but her magic reversed it and stripped me of my powers. My wife was so enraged that she ordered me to be killed... but I struck a deal with your friend, Chargooff, and he let me live here in the dungeon. Once she thought I was dead, she couldn't bear the fact that the magic had consumed her so. It ruined her life. It brought her down until she ordered her own husband's murder. She figured the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

WIZARD OF OZ (cont'd)
only way to deal with the pain was
with more power, so she savagely
hunted her sister to obtain the
silver shoes. When Dorothy's house
dropped in, she had a new target.
That about brings us up to date,
son.

INT. DUNGEONS OF THE WITCH'S CASTLE. OZ. NIGHT.

JOSHUA
What happened to your child?

WIZARD OF OZ
(puzzled)
You mean, you don't know?

JOSHUA
Know what? How would I know
anything about your child?

WIZARD OF OZ
Have you not heard the prophecy?
Good and evil are but one under the
mask of greatness. The two shall
bear their only son, ruler of both
places.

JOSHUA
Yes. I've heard it. I was told it
was only for my ears. How do you
know it?

WIZARD OF OZ
Know it? I wrote it? It was my way
of calling to you.

JOSHUA
Huh?

WIZARD OF OZ
You, Joshua, are my son. The son of
both good and evil, ruler of Oz and
your own world. The prophecy has
been fulfilled. After being in Oz
for a while, I discovered a way to
send you to America, to a time far
in the future where Bastinda could
never find you. I used magic to
make the Dudleys believe that you
were their child, and to your
sister Tamara, a twin.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA
(outraged)
Impossible! This is just insane!

WIZARD OF OZ
Take it or leave it. You are
destined to rule this place and
that.

JOSHUA
I refuse. I want to go home. I want
my real family. You're not my
father. And that old hag is most
definitely not my mother.

WIZARD OF OZ
I'm sorry, son. I'm sorry that this
was the world you were brought
into. I must not waste any more
time. I have very little left. The
deal I had with Chargoff is that I
would die when the prophecy was
fulfilled. Not by the hand of
anyone, but because the prophecy is
all that is keeping me alive. Its
magic was so strong that no one
could put an end to it. Except for
you. I love you, my son. Take good
care of Oz. Beware the magic that
runs through your veins, if you
don't use it wisely, you'll end up
like Bastinda. A Wicked Witch.

With those final words, the wizard's body begins to shake
and convulse.

All the moisture drains from him and soon he is nothing but
a pile of dust.

Joshua and the Tin-Man just sit there in shock.

FADE TO BLACK.