

(GLINDA exits as: WE FIND OURSELVES IN...)

ACT ONE

Scene 2

A PARLOR AT SHIZ UNIVERSITY.

(An archway with the name Shiz University hangs over the proceedings. STUDENTS continue to SING the Oz-ma Mater as they arrive. ELPHABA tries to greet some of them, but startled by her green-ness, they recoil from her ...)

STUDENTS

... THE PROUDLIEST SIGHT THERE IS
WHEN GREY AND SERE OUR HAIR HATH TURNED
WE SHALL STILL REVERE THE LESSONS LEARNED
IN OUR DAYS AT DEAR OLD SHIZ
OUR DAYS AT DEAR OLD ...

(GLINDA, or as she was known then, GALINDA, is the last to arrive, perched on an enormous stack of matched luggage. SHE joins the singing with a little display of vocalize ...)

GALINDA

OH-OH-OH-OH-OLD...

STUDENTS & GLINDA

- DEAR OLD SHIZ-ZZZZ

(GALINDA and all the other students covertly stare at Elphaba. She decides to cut to the chase -)

ELPHABA

What? What are you all looking at? Oh— do I have something in my teeth?

(puts her suitcase down)

Alright, fine— we might as well get this over with: No, I'm not seasick; yes, I've always been green; no, I didn't eat grass as a child...

(ELPHABA'S FATHER wheels on A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN IN A WHEELCHAIR - NESSAROSE.)

FATHER

Elphaba—!

ELPHABA

Oh, and this is my younger sister, Nessarose! As you can see, she's a perfectly normal color.

(Their FATHER angrily pulls ELPHABA aside.)

#3a – Jeweled Shoes?

FATHER

Elphaba, stop making a spectacle of yourself! Remember – I'm only sending you to this school for one reason –

ELPHABA

I know – to look after Nessa.

(FATHER crosses to NESSAROSE with a gift.)

FATHER

(to NESSAROSE)

My precious little girl – a parting gift.

NESSAROSE

(a bit uncomfortable)

Father –!

(what else can she do but open it)

Jeweled shoes?

FATHER

As befits the future governor of Munchkinland.

(turning to Elphaba)

Elphaba –

(SHE turns to him expectantly.)

Take care of your sister. And... try not to talk so much.

(HE exits. Elphaba watches him go.)

NESSAROSE

(feels for her)

Elphaba –

Elphaba turns to her sister –

ELPHABA

(to cover)

Well, what could he get me? I clash with everything.

(MADAME MORRIBLE, the imposing headmistress of Shiz University, sweeps in...)

MORRIBLE

Welcome, new students!

(ELPHABA'S FATHER leaves, as MORRIBLE continues -)

I am Madame Morrible, Head Shiztress here at Shiz University. And whether you are here to study Law, Logic, or Linguification – I know I speak for my fellow faculty members when I say that we have nothing but the highest hopes. For some of you.

(ELPHABA pushes in Wheelchair to interrupt)

ELPHABA

Excuse me! Excuse Me!

MORRIBLE

Oh – you must be the Governor's daughter! Miss Nessarose, isn't it? What a tragically beautiful face you have!

(not yet seeing Elphaba's face)

And who is – AAH!

(SHE comes face to face with Elphaba... YELPS.)

ELPHABA

I'm the other daughter, Elphaba. I'm beautifully tragic.

MORRIBLE

(finding her completely weird)

I see. Well, I'm sure you're – very bright.

(GALINDA turns to the person next to her... a gawky young man named BOQ, who has managed to maneuver himself to be as close to her as possible.)

GALINDA

Bright?! She's phosphorescent!

(ALL THE STUDENTS laugh, BOQ loudest of all.)

MORRIBLE

Now – regarding room assignments –

(Both ELPHABA and GALINDA instantly raise their hands. GALINDA waves hers very persistently.

to GALINDA, peeved)

Is this regarding room assignments?

GALINDA

Oh, no – thank you for asking, Madame Morrible, but I've already been assigned a private suite.

(Envious looks and EMBITTERED ADLIBS from the OTHER STUDENTS. GALINDA turns to them...)

(GALINDA)

But you can all visit me whenever you want!

(Smiles and HAPPIER ADLIBS from the students, as two girls, PFANNEE and SHENSHEN, beam at GALINDA....)

PFANNEE

Oh, how *good* of you!

SHENSHEN

You are *so good*!

GALINDA

No, I'm *not*!

THE TWO OF THEM

Yes, you *are*!

GALINDA

Now, stop!

MORRIBLE

(losing patience)

Did you have a question?

GALINDA

Oh, yes—you see, I am Galinda Upland, of the Upper Uplands?

I've applied to your sorcery seminar. Perhaps you recall my entrance essay—
"Magic Wands: Need They Have A Point?"

MORRIBLE

(remembering; and not with pleasure)

Ah yes... However I do not teach my seminar every semester. Of course if someone *special* were to come along—

GALINDA

Well, *exactly*.

ELPHABA

Madame Morrible?

(MORRIBLE turns.)

We haven't received *our* room assignment.

MORRIBLE

Oh, the Governor made his concern for your sister's well-being *quite* apparent—she will share *my* compartment, where I can assist her as needed.

ELPHABA

But—I've always looked after my sister.

NESSAROSE

Elphaba...

MORRIBLE

(to ELPHABA)

He never mentioned *you*.

(looks up brightly)

Just a slight gulch—not to fret! We'll find *some* place to put you!

ELPHABA

But, Madame—

(But MORRIBLE, oblivious, is looking through her papers...)

GALINDA

(to PFANNEE and SHENSHEN, still smarting from the rejection)

I don't think she even *read* my essay!

BOQ

(intruding himself)

That's so unfair! You should say something!

GALINDA

Should I?

MORRIBLE

(to THE GROUP)

Attention! Which of you young ladies will volunteer to share with Miss Elphaba?
Galinda thrusts her hand up.

GALINDA

(with self-righteous determination)

Madame Morrible?

MORRIBLE

Oh, *thank you*, dear. That is very good of you.

GALINDA

(not sure what has just happened)

What?

(MORRIBLE pulls a reluctant ELPHABA by the hand towards an equally reluctant GALINDA...)

MORRIBLE

You see, Miss Elphaba? You can room with Miss Galinda!

(GALINDA EMITS A SHOCKED SQUEAK. THE GIRLS look at each other, horrified. ELPHABA turns to MORRIBLE.)

ELPHABA

(quite shaken)

Madame—no! You don't understand—

MORRIBLE

(starts to wheel NESSA out)

To your rooms, young ladies!

ELPHABA

No—No, wait—

NESSAROSE

Elphaba, please— I'll be alright!

ELPHABA

But—I promised Father—

MORRIBLE

Young gentlemen—to your dormitory!

ELPHABA

LET HER GO!!

(And suddenly THE WHEELCHAIR PULLS ITSELF OUT OF MORRIBLE'S GRASP, The students GASP. THE CHAIR SPINS, RISES INTO THE AIR, AND THEN LANDS GENTLY IN FRONT OF ELPHABA. Morrillable stares at Elphaba. The other students and faculty stare, dumbfounded, then BUZZ AMONGST THEMSELVES...)

#3b – Let Her Go!**MORRIBLE**

How did you do that?

GALINDA

(thunder-struck, to her friends)

How did she do that?

NESSAROSE

Oh, Elphaba. You promised things would be different here.

MORRIBLE

(Leaning closer)

You mean ... this has happened before?

ELPHABA

Well ... something just comes over me sometimes. Something I—can't describe. But I'll try to control myself.

(to NESSAROSE)

I'm sorry, Nessa.

MORRIBLE

What?! Never apologize for talent! Talent is a gift!
And that is *my* special talent, *encouraging* talent!

(studies her closely)

Have you ever considered a career in sorcery?

ELPHABA

Not really ...

MORRIBLE

I shall tutor you privately—and take no other students!

GALINDA

(a screech)

Whaat?!

(The STUDENTS start to leave, one of the boys helping to wheel Nessarose off. BOQ remains, desperate to catch GALINDA's eye ...)

#4 – The Wizard And I

MORRIBLE

MANY YEARS I HAVE WAITED
FOR A GIFT LIKE YOURS TO APPEAR
WHY, I PREDICT THE WIZARD
MIGHT MAKE YOU HIS
MAGIC GRAND VIZIER!

ELPHABA

The Wizard!?

MORRIBLE

MY DEAR, MY DEAR
I'LL WRITE AT ONCE TO THE WIZARD—

(MORRIBLE)

TELL HIM OF YOU IN ADVANCE ...
WITH A TALENT LIKE YOURS, DEAR
THERE IS A DEFIN-ISH CHANCE
IF YOU WORK AS YOU SHOULD—
YOU'LL BE MAKING GOOD ...

GALINDA

But—Madame Morrible—!

MORRIBLE

(very dismissively)

Not now, dear!

(MORRIBLE sweeps off. The STUDENTS follow suit.)

GALINDA

(deeply puzzled)

Something's wrong...

(realizes)

I didn't get my way!

(Sudden headache)

I think I need to lie down.

(SHE goes off.)

Now ELPHABA is alone, dazed but thrilled.)

ELPHABA

DID THAT REALLY JUST HAPPEN?
HAVE I ACTUALLY UNDERSTOOD?
THIS WEIRD QUIRK I'VE TRIED
TO SUPPRESS OR HIDE
IS A TALENT THAT COULD
HELP ME MEET THE WIZARD
IF I MAKE GOOD
SO I'LL MAKE GOOD ...

WHEN I MEET THE WIZARD
ONCE I PROVE MY WORTH
AND THEN I MEET THE WIZARD
WHAT I'VE WAITED FOR SINCE—SINCE BIRTH!
AND WITH ALL HIS WIZARD WISDOM

(ELPHABA)

BY MY LOOKS, HE WON'T BE BLINDED
DO YOU THINK THE WIZARD IS DUMB?
OR LIKE MUNCHKINS, SO SMALL-MINDED?
NO! HE'LL SAY TO ME:
"I SEE WHO YOU TRULY ARE
A GIRL ON WHOM I CAN RELY!"
AND THAT'S HOW WE'LL BEGIN
THE WIZARD AND I ...

ONCE I'M WITH THE WIZARD
MY WHOLE LIFE WILL CHANGE
'CUZ ONCE YOU'RE WITH THE WIZARD
NO ONE THINKS YOU'RE STRANGE
NO FATHER IS NOT PROUD OF YOU
NO SISTER ACTS ASHAMED
AND ALL OF OZ HAS TO LOVE YOU
WHEN BY THE WIZARD, YOU'RE ACCLAIMED
AND THIS GIFT -- OR THIS CURSE --
I HAVE INSIDE
MAYBE AT LAST, I'LL KNOW WHY
AS WE WORK HAND IN HAND --
THE WIZARD AND I!

AND ONE DAY, HE'LL SAY TO ME: "ELPHABA,
A GIRL WHO IS SO SUPERIOR
SHOULDN'T A GIRL WHO'S SO GOOD INSIDE
HAVE A MATCHING EXTERIOR?
AND SINCE FOLKS HERE TO AN ABSURD DEGREE
SEEM FIXATED ON YOUR VERDIGRIS
WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT BY YOU
IF I DE-GREENIFY YOU?"
AND THOUGH OF COURSE THAT'S
NOT IMPORTANT TO ME
"ALL RIGHT, WHY NOT?" I'LL REPLY
OH, WHAT A PAIR WE'LL BE
THE WIZARD AND I ...
WHAT A PAIR WE'LL BE
THE WIZARD AND ...

(SHE breaks off suddenly, struck by a wonderful vision of her future.)

(ELPHABA)

UNLIMITED
MY FUTURE IS UNLIMITED
AND I'VE JUST HAD A VISION
ALMOST LIKE A PROPHECY
I KNOW – IT SOUNDS TRULY CRAZY
AND TRUE, THE VISION'S HAZY
BUT I SWEAR, SOMEDAY THERE'LL BE
A CELEBRATION THROUGHOUT OZ
THAT'S ALL TO DO WITH ME!

AND I'LL STAND THERE WITH THE WIZARD
FEELING THINGS I'VE NEVER FELT
AND THOUGH I'D NEVER SHOW IT
I'LL BE SO HAPPY, I COULD MELT
AND SO IT WILL BE
FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE
AND I'LL WANT NOTHING ELSE
TILL I DIE
HELD IN SUCH HIGH ESTEEM
WHEN PEOPLE SEE ME, THEY WILL SCREAM
FOR HALF OF OZ'S FAV'RITE TEAM:
THE WIZARD
AND I!