



The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum

Rebecca Loncraine

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum

Rebecca Loncraine

The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum Rebecca Loncraine

In the first major literary biography of L. Frank Baum, Rebecca Loncraine tells the story of Oz as you've never heard it, with a look behind the curtain at the vivid life and eccentric imagination of its creator.

L. Frank Baum wrote *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* in 1899 and it was first published in 1900. A runaway hit, it was soon recognized as America's first modern fairy tale. Baum's life story, like the fictional world he created, is uniquely American, rooted in the transforming historical changes of his times. Baum was a complex and eccentric man who could never stay put for long; his restless creative spirit and voracious appetite for new projects led him across the U.S. during his lifetime, and he drew energy and inspiration from each new dramatic landscape he encountered. Born in 1856, Baum spent his youth in the Finger Lakes region of New York as amputee soldiers returned from the Civil War; childhood mortality was also commonplace, blurring the lines between the living and the dead, and making room in Baum's young imagination for vividly real ghosts. When Baum was growing up, P. T. Barnum ruled the minds of small towns and his traveling circus was the most famous act around. Baum married a headstrong young woman named Maud Gage and they ventured out west to Dakota Territory, where they faced violent tornadoes, Ghost Dancing tribes and desperate droughts, before trading the hardships on the Great Plains for the excitement of Chicago and the fantastical White City of the World's Fair.

Baum's writing tapped into an inner world that blurred his own sense of reality and fantasy. The Land of Oz, which Baum believed he had "discovered" rather than invented, grew into something far bigger and more popular than he'd ever imagined. After the roaring success of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* in 1900, he became a kind of slave to his creation, trapped inside Oz as his army of demanding child fans kept sending him back there to create new adventures for Dorothy, Toto and the humbug wizard. He went on to write thirteen sequels to his first Oz book. He also wrote the first Broadway adaptations of his Oz tales, and turned his Oz books into some of the first motion pictures in a small and undiscovered rural settlement called "Hollywood". Baum co-founded the Oz Film Manufacturing Company, even as critics warned that no one would pay to see a children's story. And they were right- his early ventures were box office flops and the world was not ready for Oz on screen until 1939, when MGM released "The Wizard of Oz" in brilliant Technicolor. Baum was not around to see it-he'd died in bed in 1919 just weeks after completing his final Oz book. But the book and film alike have become classics, just as well-loved today as they were when they first appeared.

The Real Wizard of Oz is an imaginatively written work that stretches the genre of biography and enriches our understanding of modern fairytales. L. Frank Baum, author of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* and its thirteen sequels, lived during eventful times in American history-- from 1856 to 1919-- that influenced nearly every aspect of his writing, from the Civil War to Hollywood, which was emerging as a modern Emerald City full of broken dreams and humbug wizards, to the gulf between America's prairie heartland, with its wild tornadoes, and its cities teeming with "Tin Man" factory workers. This is a colorful portrait of one man's vivid and eccentric imagination and the world that shaped it. Baum's famous fairytale is filled with the pain of the economic uncertainties of the Gilded Age and with a yearning for real change, ideas which many contemporary Americans will recognize. *The Wizard of Oz* continues to fascinate and influence us because it explores universal themes of longing for a better world, homesickness and finding inner strength amid the storms.

 **[Download](#)** [The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Fr ...pdf](#)

 **[Read Online](#)** [The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum Rebecca Loncraine

From reader reviews:

Rose Cordeiro:

Can you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt if you are in the book store? Try and pick one book that you never know the inside because don't assess book by its deal with may doesn't work this is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not while fantastic as in the outside seem likes. Maybe you answer is usually The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum why because the great cover that make you consider about the content will not disappoint you. The inside or content is definitely fantastic as the outside as well as cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly guide you to pick up this book.

Sharon Bufkin:

Many people spending their moment by playing outside with friends, fun activity having family or just watching TV the entire day. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, think reading a book really can hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It fine you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Smart phone. Like The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum which is keeping the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's view.

Marilyn Chambers:

As we know that book is very important thing to add our expertise for everything. By a publication we can know everything we want. A book is a pair of written, printed, illustrated or even blank sheet. Every year seemed to be exactly added. This e-book The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum was filled in relation to science. Spend your extra time to add your knowledge about your research competence. Some people has various feel when they reading the book. If you know how big selling point of a book, you can experience enjoy to read a guide. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you simply wanted.

Erik Figaro:

Do you like reading a e-book? Confuse to looking for your chosen book? Or your book had been rare? Why so many problem for the book? But any kind of people feel that they enjoy for reading. Some people likes studying, not only science book and also novel and The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum or even others sources were given know-how for you. After you know how the good a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science book was created for teacher or maybe students especially. Those ebooks are helping them to include their knowledge. In additional case, beside science publication, any other book likes The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum to make your spare time a lot more colorful. Many types of book like this one.

Download and Read Online The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum Rebecca Loncraine #CIU02YNRM8P

Read The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum by Rebecca Loncraine for online ebook

The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum by Rebecca Loncraine Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum by Rebecca Loncraine books to read online.

Online The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum by Rebecca Loncraine ebook PDF download

The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum by Rebecca Loncraine Doc

The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum by Rebecca Loncraine Mobipocket

The Real Wizard of Oz: The Life and Times of L. Frank Baum by Rebecca Loncraine EPub