

# The Wiltz Dialect in a Luxembourgish Drama for Children : Analysis of the Script for “Den Zauberer vun Oz” (2005)

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## 1 . Introduction

Luxembourgish is the national language of Luxembourg which genealogically derives from Moselle Franconian, a regional variety of German. Despite the small population of its native speakers of about 280,000 and the small size of its territory, this language has some regional varieties, of which the central, the southern, the eastern and the northern varieties are well identified (regional varieties are termed dialects below). Standard Luxembourgish was formed or is being formed on the basis of the central dialect and therefore other dialects have the tendency to shift towards the central dialect. Nevertheless, according to the study of Gilles (1999), today’s young speakers of the northern and the eastern dialects still retain the traditional features of their dialects.

The following drama text which was adapted from ‘The Wizard of Oz’ by Frank Baum and was performed by elementary school pupils in April, 2005 in Wiltz, the principal town of the northern region of Luxembourg, is an example of a text written in the northern dialect.<sup>1</sup>

Manon Feyen, Myriam Putz-Weisgerber, Véronique Windeshausen-Kinnen a Jean-Paul Majerus, *Den Zauberer vun Oz*.  
Abrëll 2005 (not published), 37 pages.

The purpose of the present article is to list notable dialect forms used in this text and to examine them on the basis of the theses of Gilles (1999) and Bruch (1973). The features mainly examined are the epenthesis of *-k /-g*, the *s*-palatalization, the neuter forms of some possessive adjectives, and the vowel represented by the spelling *oa*. The dialect forms used in a drama text do not always reflect the linguistic reality but we might be able to demonstrate the inhabitants’ image of the features of their own dialect.

Before examining the dialect forms in the text we summarize the dialect consciousness of Luxembourgish speakers in Wiltz discussed in Fehlen (2009).

## 2 . The dialect consciousness of the Luxembourgophones in Wiltz

The language situation in Luxembourg is very complex because of the high rate of foreign inhabitants whose proficiency and use pattern of languages vary by social factors such as nationality, birth place, age, and so on. The population of Wiltz is 4,647 and its rate of foreign inhabitants is 44% (in May 2006)<sup>2</sup> which is a little higher than the average rate of the state. The term ‘Luxembourgophones’ used below means not only the native-speakers of Luxembourgish but also its speakers as a second (or third, fourth and so on) language.

In its chapter on regional variations Fehlen (2009) reported the results of the research on the dialect consciousness of the Luxembourgish speakers which was carried out in 2004.<sup>3</sup> According to this research, 73,3% of the 1,423 Luxembourgophones, of whom only 953 persons speak Luxembourgish as a first language, think that they can recognize the speaker’s region by his/her speech (Fehlen 2009: 172-3). The percentage varies by age: from 91% in the age of 65-70 to 61% in the age of 25-34.

To the question ‘Can the inhabitants of your region be identified by their accent ?’, 62% of all the Luxembourgophones say yes. As to the variation by region (‘canton’), Clervaux (about 80%) and Wiltz (about 75%) show the two highest percentages, both of which belong to the northern dialect region, and Echternach and Vianden (both about 70%), both of which belong to the eastern dialect region, show the third and fourth highest percentages (Fehlen 2009: 174). If we count only those informants who say that they can recognize regional varieties of Luxembourgish, the percentages of Clervaux, Wiltz and Vianden increase to 100%.

The informants recognizing regional varieties of Luxembourgish (total number: 1,059) are asked how many people in their region speak the regional accent.<sup>4</sup> To this question 42% of the inhabitants in Wiltz answer ‘almost all (baal alleguer)’ and 21% answer ‘many (vill)’ (Fehlen 2009: 177). The sum total of these two answers puts Wiltz by far at the top of all regions.

From these results we could conclude that the Luxembourgophones in Wiltz feel more strongly than in other regions that their dialect is quite unique and that many people in Wiltz speak it.

### 3 . The dialect forms found in the drama “Den Zauberer vun Oz”

#### 3.1. The research by Gilles (1999)

Gilles (1999) researched the situation of Luxembourgish dialects on the basis of the recorded answers to a questionnaire, two sorts of speech data, and other additional data. The researched items of his questionnaire, most of which are phonological or phonetic, correspond to the items in the research for LSA (Luxemburger Sprachatlas ‘Linguistic Atlas of Luxembourg’) practiced in 1925-39, which enables the same items to be compared diachronically. The speech data consist of 1) the dialogues by speakers of the same dialect and 2) the dialogues by speakers of different dialects. The main informants are 23 persons who are teachers at elementary schools and kindergardens, and students of a teacher training college, all in their twenties, and are mostly female (18 women and 5 men). Of the main informants, four persons come from the northern dialect region, of whom two come from the Wiltz area. Of the informants of the additional data which include only the recorded answers to the questionnaire, four persons come from the northern dialect region, of whom two come from the Wiltz area. In sum, therefore, of the eight informants from the northern dialect region, four come from the Wiltz area.

#### 3.2. The epenthesis of *-k* or *-g*<sup>5</sup>

The most prominent marker of the northern dialect is the epenthesis of *-k* or *-g* in the syllables with long vowels or diphthongs preceding *-t* or *-d*, e.g. the northern dialect (North. below) [brukt] ‘bread’ (L. Brout ; G. Brot). The syllables in question had long vowels or diphthongs in the old stages of German. But in Standard Luxembourgish they do not always have long vowels or diphthongs, e.g. North. [brugdər] ‘brother’ (L. Brudder; G. Bruder). The epenthesis is prevailing mostly in Ripuarian dialect of German which is spoken in the northern region to Moselle Franconian. Gilles (1999: 212-218) classifies the patterns of the epenthesis into four groups on the basis of the territory where each pattern is used by the LSA informants and by his own informants. Simplifying his classification, we classify the patterns of the epenthesis into the following three types;

Type A: the epenthesis patterns which are used in the whole northern dialect region,

Type B: the epenthesis patterns which are used only in the Wiltz area, the southwestern area in the region, and

Type C: the epenthesis patterns which are used only in the Troivierges area, the most northern area in the region.

The examples of each type are as follows. Here we give only the patterns which concern the analysis of the dialect forms in our drama text. Gilles (1999: 215) defines the types of the epenthesis by the assumed stem vowels of Old High German forms, but we give Middle High German forms instead, for some of his assumed OHG forms are different from the forms found in the dictionary of Schützeichel (1989).

Type A: The epenthesis patterns used in the whole northern dialect region<sup>6</sup>

North.	L	G	MHG
[hokt] ‘today’	haut	heute	hiute
[lɛkt] ‘people’	Leit	Leute	liut

Type B: The epenthesis patterns used only in the Wiltz area<sup>7</sup>

North.	L	G.	MHG
[brugdər] ‘brother’	Brudder	Bruder	bruoder
[nik] ‘not’	nët	nicht	niet <sup>8</sup>

Type C: The epenthesis patterns used only in the Troivierges area<sup>9</sup>

North.	L	G	MHG
[tsektən] ‘times (dative)’	Zäiten	Zeiten	zîten
[lœkt] ‘(he/she) lies’	läit	liegt	lît < liget <sup>10</sup>
[ʃlikt] ‘(he/she) hits’	schléit	schlägt	sleit < slehet <sup>11</sup>
[dukt] ‘dead’	dout	tot	tôt

Now we examine the epenthesis forms used in the drama text “Den Zauberer vun Oz” on the basis of the above mentioned epenthesis types. We find five words which have the epenthesis of *-k* or *-g*, which are given in Table 1. The numbers in the square brackets designate the numbers of the speech turns in the sample texts.

Table 1: The words with epenthesis used in the text

Text forms	L	G	MHG	
Legd ‘people’	Leit	Leute	liut	p.28 [=41]
mïgd ‘sleepy’	mitt	müde	müede/ muode	p.11
Hugd ‘hat’	Hutt	Hut	huot	p.24
geschïgd ‘happened (pp.)’	geschïtt	geschehen	geschiet <sup>12</sup>	p.12, 21, and 29 [=43]
nik ‘not’	nët	nicht	niet	p.14 [=18], 16 [=30], and many other examples

The word *Legd* belongs to type A and the word *nik* to type B as shown above. The other three words could be regarded as belonging to type B, for they had the stem vowel *uo* (> *üe*) or *ie* in Middle High German. Therefore the epenthesis forms used in the text are all expected forms from the research result of Gilles (1999).

Next we examine the forms without epenthesis. Table 2 shows the words used in the text which have or had syllables with long vowels or diphthongs preceding *-t* or *-d*, but do not have epenthesis.<sup>13</sup> As a result the text forms are the same as Standard Luxembourgish forms.

Table 2: The words without epenthesis used in the text

Text forms (= L)	G	MHG	
Zäit ‘time’	Zeit	zît	pp.1 , 24, 29
läit ‘(he/she) lies’	liegt	lît < liget	pp.1, 28 [=35]
Säit ‘side’	Seite	sîte	p.22
souwäit ‘so far’	soweit	wîte	p.10
dout ‘dead’	tot	tôt	pp.15, 16 [=31], 18, 23
schléit ‘(he/she) hits’	schlägt	sleit < slehet	p.11
breed ‘stretch (imperative)’	breit	breite	p.
geet ‘(he/she) goes’	geht	geit < gêt <sup>14</sup>	pp.5, 8, 13, 15 [=27] etc.
gesot ‘said (pp.)’	gesagt	geseit <sup>15</sup>	p.30
iwwerleet ‘(he/she) ponders’	überlegt	überleit	p.24
gesäit ‘(he/she) sees’	sieht	siet < sihet <sup>16</sup>	p.31
Lidd ‘song’	Lied	liet	pp. 20, 21, 23 etc.
Blutt ‘blood’	Blut	bluot	p.11
gutt ‘good’	gut	guot	pp.28 [=39], 37 etc.
(Zauber-) Kräider ‘herbs’	Kräuter	kriute	p.21

Although sound changes do not always take place regularly, we try to classify these forms by their MHG forms as far as possible. The forms *Zäit*, *läit*, *dout* and *schléit* belong to type C as shown above. The forms *Säit*, *souwäit*, *breed*, *geet*, *gesot*, and *iwwerleet* also belong to type C, because their stem vowels in MHG were *î* or *ei*. It is natural, therefore, that these forms do not receive epenthesis in the Wiltz area.

On the contrary, the forms *gesäit*, *Lidd*, *Blutt*, and *gutt* belong, theoretically, to type B which had a stem vowel *ie* or *uo* in MHG. But as to the form *gesäit*, Gilles (1999: 215) classifies it as type C, presuming its original stem vowel in OHG to be *î*,<sup>17</sup> and in fact all of his three informants from Troivierge use the epenthesis form [gəzɪkt] ‘he/she sees’. Without the hypothesis on its vowel in OHG, we could assume that the form *gesäit* has shifted to type C by morphological analogy to *läit* or *Zäit* etc. In the case of *Lidd* and *Blutt*, they had the epenthesis form [likt] and [blukt] in the Wiltz area in the LSA period (Gilles 1999: 214). The word *gutt* did not already have the epenthesis form in the LSA period (Gilles 1999: 147). The form *Kräider* belongs, theoretically, to type A because of its MHG vowel *iu*.

The words which belong to type A or B should be expected to have the epenthesis forms in the dialect of Wiltz, but, as shown above, some of them, i.e. *gesäit*, *Lidd*, *Blutt*, *gutt*, and *Kräider*, do not receive epenthesis and have the same forms as Standard Luxembourgish. This phenomenon would demonstrate that even in the Wiltz dialect the standardized forms are being gradually accepted.

### 3.3. *s*-Palatalization

The *s*-palatalization, i.e. the dissimilation of the fricative [s] to [ʃ] before a plosive (mostly *t*), is primarily a prominent feature of the Alemannic dialect of German which is spoken in the southern region to Moselle Franconian and its strong influence is found in the southern dialect of Luxembourgish. The original conditions of the *s*-palatalization in each dialect are shown in Table 3 (Cf. Gilles 1999: 199).

Table 3: The original conditions of the *s*-palatalization in Luxembourgish dialects

Conditions	Southern	Central (=L)	Northern-Eastern	Examples (L)
Word-initial	ʃ	ʃ	ʃ	Steen [ʃte:n] 'stone'
Word-medial	ʃ	ʃ / s	s	Loscht 'desire' / Post 'post office'
Word-final (2.P.Sg.) <sup>18</sup>	ʃ	s	s	(du) hues 'you have'

The *s*-palatalization was formerly prevailing mostly in the southern dialect where it occurred under all conditions. On the contrary the northern and the eastern dialects had this phenomenon only in word-initial position just as in Standard German. In the central dialect the occurrence of palatalization in the medial position does not depend on the phonological circumstances but on individual lexemes as shown in the examples in Table 3. Despite this complexity many speakers of the southern and the northern-eastern dialect have adopted the pattern of the central dialect, which indicates the strong impact of the central dialect on other dialects (Gilles 1999: 207).

On the basis of the above mentioned original conditions of the *s*-palatalization we regard the forms with *-s-* [s] in the medial position in our text as the inherited dialect forms of the northern dialect, if their cognate in Standard Luxembourgish has palatalized forms of *-sch-* [ʃ]. Such dialect forms are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: The forms without *s*-palatalization in the text

Text forms	L	G	
Lost 'desire'	Loscht	Lust	p.28 [=41]
Buergermeester 'mayor'	Buergermeeschter	Bürgermeister	p.27
leesten 'perform'	leeschten	leisten	p.15 [=27]
Dingst 'service'	Dénscht	Dienst	p.15 [=27]

Contrary to the form *Lost* which is used by Oz in the text we find the form *Loscht* 'desire' (p.9) which is used by Dotti 'Dorothy'. But it cannot be demonstrated that Oz uses more dialect forms in general than Dotti. The form *Loscht* and other examples of the palatalized forms in the text as shown in Table 5 seem to indicate the influence of the standardized forms on the northern dialect.

Table 5: The forms with the *s*-palatalization in the text

Text forms (= L)	G	
Rescht 'rest'	Rest	p.4
däischer 'dull'	düster	p.4
éischer 'first'	erst	pp.12, 24, and 32
Angscht 'fear'	Angst	pp.21 and 26

### 3.4. Some possessive adjectives, the indefinite article and the negative article for the neuters

In Standard Luxembourgish the nominative-accusative masculine form of the possessive adjectives *mäin* 'my', *däin* 'your (singular)', and *säin* 'his / its' also modify the neuter nouns, while other possessive adjectives *eisen* 'our', *ären* 'your (plural)', and *hiren* 'her / their' have special forms for the neuters, i.e. *eist* 'our', *äert* 'your (plural)', and *hiert* 'her / their'.<sup>19</sup> But in the

northern dialect the possessive adjectives *mäin*, *däin*, and *säin* have special forms for the neuters, i.e. *mengt* ‘my’, *dengt* ‘your (singular)’, and *sengt* ‘his /its’ (Bruch 1973: 64). Table 6 shows examples of these dialect forms used in our drama text. In the same table we also give examples of the indefinite article and the negative article with the ending *-t* for the nominative-accusative neuter nouns. These forms are considered as dialect forms because they are not used in Standard Luxembourgish.

Table 6: Dialect forms of possessive adjectives, the indefinite article, and the negative article in the text

<i>mengt</i> Häerz ‘my heart’ p.13 [=2]	<i>mengt</i> Haus ‘my house’ p.15 [=24]
<i>mengt</i> Vollik ‘my people’ p.34 [=47]	<i>dengt</i> Verspreechen ‘your promise’ p.23
<i>sengt</i> Häerz ‘his heart’ p.23	<i>engt</i> Land ‘a country’ p.4
<i>engt</i> Häerz ‘a heart’ pp.17, and 25	<i>engt</i> gutt Kand ‘a good child’ p.34 [=46]
<i>kengt</i> Häerz ‘no heart’ p.17	

But as to the nouns *Häerz* ‘heart’ and *Kand* ‘child’, the standardized forms as shown in Table 7 are also used in our text. The use of these variants does not seem to depend on social factors such as the speaker, the hearer, the situation and so on. The same speaker, Blechmetti ‘Tin Woodman’, uses both *mengt Häerz* (p.13) and *mäin Häerz* (p.22) in the conversation with his friends. There exist, therefore, free variations between the dialect form and the standardized form.

Table 7: The standardized forms of possessive adjectives, the indefinite article, and the negative article in the text

<i>mäi</i> Kand ‘my child’ pp.4, 28 [=33], 29 [=43], and 34	<i>mäin</i> Häerz ‘my heart’ p.22
<i>däin</i> Häerz ‘your heart’ p.7	<i>een</i> Häerz ‘a heart’ p.13 [=10]
<i>keen</i> Häerz ‘no heart’ p.35 [=57]	

### 3.5. The vowel represented by the spelling *oa*

In the domain of the vowels the most prominent feature in our text is the vowel *oa* which appears quite frequently. Table 8 shows four sorts of correspondences of this *oa* to the vowels of Standard Luxembourgish.

Table 8: The correspondences of the diphthong *oa* in the text to the vowels of Standard Luxembourgish.

(1) <i>oa</i> – <i>aa</i>	
<i>hoart</i> ‘loudly’ (L haart) p.5	<i>oarm</i> ‘poor’ (L aarm) p.8
<i>stoark</i> ‘strong’ (L staark) pp.18, and 32	<i>Oarbicht</i> ‘labour’ (L Aarbecht) p.29 [=43]
<i>woart</i> ‘wait (imperative)’ (L waard) p.29	
(2) <i>oa</i> – <i>ue</i>	
<i>hoas</i> ‘(you) have’ (L hues) pp.2, 16 [=31] etc.	<i>Noacht</i> ‘night’ (L Nuecht) p.6
<i>gedoacht</i> ‘thought (pp.)’ (L geduecht) p.11	<i>Groaw</i> ‘trench’ (L Gruef) p.20, 32
<i>goar</i> ‘entirely’ (L guer) p.21 <sup>20</sup>	<i>Noas</i> ‘nose’ (L Nues) p.32
(3) <i>oa</i> – <i>äe</i>	
<i>doarft</i> ‘(you) may’ (L däerft) p.14 [=16] <sup>21</sup>	<i>agespoart</i> ‘shut (pp.)’ (L agespäert) p.28 [=41]
(4) <i>oa</i> – <i>u</i>	
<i>Hoamer</i> ‘hammar’ (L Hummer) p.32	<i>zesoamen</i> ‘together’ (L zesummen) p.4

In the correspondence (1) the vowel in question always precedes the consonant *-r*. In this case the vowel *oa* systematically appears in our text. According to Gilles (1999: 101) the vowel *aa* preceding *-r* in the central dialect was pronounced as [ɔ:] by the speaker from Wiltz in the LSA research. An informant from Wiltz of Gilles research (termed N4) also pronounces this vowel as [ɔ:] in innerdialectal dialogues (Gilles 1999: 103).<sup>22</sup> The spelling *oa* in the text, therefore, represents the monophthong [ɔ:].

In the case of (2) the correspondence is not thoroughgoing and in the text we also find the forms having the vowel *ue* which are shown in Table 9. According to Gilles (1999: 135) the vowel *ue* in the central dialect, e.g. in the lexeme *Nuecht* ‘night’, was pronounced as [ɔ:] or [o:] by the speaker from Wiltz in the LSA research. His informant from Wiltz (N4) also pronounces this vowel [ɔ:] or [o:] in the questionnaire (Gilles 1999: 137). Because of not using *oo*, the spelling *oa* in the text would represent the vowel [ɔ:]. The examples of Table 9 show the influence of the standardized forms on the Wiltz dialect.

Table 9: The forms with vowel *ue*

Buergermeester 'mayor' p.27	fuerwëtzig 'interested' p.14 [=20]
Kueb 'crow' p.18	duerch 'through' pp.18, and 30

In the case of (3) we find only two examples in the text, while the forms having the same vowel as that of Standard Luxembourgish are more frequent as shown in Table 10.

Table 10: The forms having the vowel *äe*

Äerm 'arm' pp.22, 24 etc.	fäerten 'fear' pp.2, and 18
wäerte(n) 'will (future)' pp.14 [=18], and 26	Häerz 'heart' pp.13, 17 etc.

In the case of (4) the vowel in question precedes the consonant *-m*. But because of the scarcity of example we cannot explain whether this phonological condition causes the vowel change *u > oa* in the dialect of Wiltz.

### 3.6. Other features

We find the following other dialect features in our text. First, in unaccented syllables the vowel *-i-* quite frequently appears instead of *-e-* of Standard Luxembourgish. Some of the examples are shown in Table 11. In some lexemes we find fluctuations between the two forms, e.g. *Vollik* (p.33) / *Vollek* (p.29) 'people' or *sich* (pp.2, 11 etc.) / *sech* (p.6) 'oneself'.

Table 11: The forms having the vowel *-i-* in unaccented syllables

endlich 'at last' (L endlech) p.13 [=2]	richtig 'right' (L richtig) p.35 [=54]
Kinnik 'king' (L Kinnek) pp.18, 21 etc.	folligen 'follow' (L follegen) p.29

Second, the verbal ending *-éieren* in Standard Luxembourgish appears sometimes in the form *-éiren* as shown in Table 12. But we also find the forms ending with *-éieren* and in the past participles the ending *-éiert* almost always appears, e.g. *funktionéiert* 'functioned (pp.)' (p.35 [=55]).

Table 12: The verbs having the ending *-éiren*

erféiren 'be frightened' (L erféieren) p.2	probéiren 'try' (L probéieren) p.25
regéire(n) (infinitive) 'govern' (L regéieren) p.26 <sup>23</sup>	

## 4. Conclusion

We have analyzed the dialect forms used in a drama text for children. It is not recognizable for the present author whether the children in Wiltz use all of the dialect forms in their everyday life. It is probable that some dialect forms are used only by elder people. As shown above, dialect forms and standardized forms coexist in many features, e.g. *Lost* / *Loscht* 'desire', *mengt* / *mäin* 'my', or *Vollik* / *Vollek* 'people' and such coexistence demonstrates the influence of Standard Luxembourgish on the dialect of Wiltz.

The dialect features used in the drama could be considered the dialect markers which are identified by people most clearly and they would reflect the core image of the dialect in people's mind. Our next step is to conduct a research into the actual dialect use across generations in Wiltz, examining the result of the present article.

## Notes

- 1 The present author would like to express his deepest thanks to Dr. Joseph Reisdorfer, professor at Athenée du Luxembourg, who lives in Wiltz, for sharing the drama text.
- 2 Based on the webpage information provided by the administration of Wiltz ([www.wiltz.lu](http://www.wiltz.lu)).
- 3 The method of the research was a spot check questionnaire by telephone to the residents in Luxembourg. The total number of informants was 1,708.
- 4 The original sentence of the question is 'Wéivill Leit bei Iech an der Géigend schwätzen esou?'. Here the word 'esou' means 'with the regional accent'.
- 5 The description of this section is based on Gilles (1999: 211-218). We use the simplified phonetic signs in what follows.

- 6 Seven out of eight informants from the northern dialect region use this type of epenthesis.
- 7 Not all informants from Wiltz (totally four) use each form with the epenthesis. One informant (termed N3), in particular, uses none of the epenthesis forms.
- 8 The negation particle [nik] derives from Middle High German *niet* (or *niut*), which were used besides *niht*. Cf. Paul/ Schröbler/ Wiehl/ Grosse (1998: 156). On the loss of the final consonant *t* after the epenthesis of *k*, see Gilles (1999: 214, 220).
- 9 All three informants from the Troivierges area use each of the epenthesis forms.
- 10 On the contraction /ige/ > /i/ in Middle High German, see Paul/ Schröbler/ Wiehl/ Grosse (1998: 135).
- 11 In Middle High German the third person singular of the indicative present of *slahen* ‘hit’ is *slêt* < *slehet*. Its Central Franconian form is *sleit*. Cf. Paul/ Schröbler/ Wiehl/ Grosse (1998: 269).
- 12 The past participle *geschigt* derives from *geschiet*, the Cenral Franconian form of Middle High German, which was formed from *geschêhen* (infinitive) by the loss of /h/ and contraction (> *geschien*) and by change to a weak verb. Cf. Paul/ Schröbler/ Wiehl/ Grosse (1998: 138, 175, and 247).
- 13 We exclude the words which were borrowed from German in the relatively near past, e.g. *leider* ‘regrettably’ or *Süden* ‘south’.
- 14 The form *geit* is a Central Franconian form of *gêt*. Cf. Paul/ Schröbler/ Wiehl/ Grosse (1998: 269).
- 15 Cf. Paul/ Schröbler/ Wiehl/ Grosse (1998: 257).
- 16 Cf. Paul/ Schröbler/ Wiehl/ Grosse (1998: 247) on the contraction /ihe/ > /ie/.
- 17 Although it is not explained, Gilles (1999) would have assumed the vowel change *gesît* < OHG *gisihit*.
- 18 The cause of the palatalization was the original ending of 2nd Person Singular *-st*.
- 19 As to the feminine form, each possessive adjective has a special form.
- 20 We also find the forms *gär* (p.34) and *gäer* (pp.18, and 19).
- 21 We also find the forms *däerf* (p.3) and *däerfs* (p.14).
- 22 The exception in this case is the word *war* ‘was’. This word never appears as *\*woar* in our text.
- 23 We also find the form *regéieren* (infinitive) (p.32).

### Abbreviations

G: (Standard) German	L: (Standard) Luxembourgish
LSA: Luxemburger Sprachatlas	MHG: Middle High German
North.: the northern dialect of Luxembourgish	OHG: Old High German

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### The sample script for “Den Zauberer vun Oz”

We extract some scenes from “Den Zauberer vun Oz” below. In principle each speech turn is numbered.

#### Abbreviations

Blechn = Blechmetti ‘Tin Woodman’	Strk = Stréikapp ‘Scarecrow’
Torw = Torwächter ‘Doorkeeper’	

**Scene 9** (pp.13-14)

Dorothy, Toto (Dorothy's dog), Scarecrow, Tin Woodman and Lion arrive at the palace of Oz.

- (1) Dotti: Wow, wat ass dat schéin ! Wat muss deen Oz eewer ee groussen Zauberer sen, fir a sou engem Palast ze wunnen !
- (2) Blechm: (verdreemt) Lo kréien ech endlich mengt Häerz ! Mmmmhh...
- (3) Strk: An ech mäi Verstand !
- (4) Léiw: rrrr... an ech mäi Courage.
- (5) Dotti: Jo ! An ech kommen heem (dréckt den Toto u sech)
- (6) *Si wëllen an de Palast. Torwächter tut an hält se un.*
- (7) Torw: Eh, là. Wat wëllt dir hei an der Smaragdstad ?
- (8) Dotti: Ma mir wëlle bei dee groussen Oz ! Heen ass deen eenzigen deen eis nach hëllef kann.
- (9) Torw: Majo dann ! Dir musst eewer wëssen, datt dee groussen Oz ganz béis ka gin, wann een hee mat Dommheete nervt.
- (10) Blechm: Dat wat mir wëllen, sen eewer keng Dommheeten. Ech wëll een Häerz.
- (11) Strk: An ech Verstand.
- (12) Léiw: An ech Courage.
- (13) Dotti: An mir wëllen heem.
- (14) Torw: Fir bei dee groussen Oz ze gon, braucht dir eewer dee Brëll hei.

English translation

- (1) Dorothy: Wow, how beautiful that is ! Oz must be a great wizard, for he lives in such a palace !
- (2) Tin Woodman: (dreamily) Now I can get my heart at last ! Mmmmhh...
- (3) Scarecrow: And I my brain !
- (4) Lion: rrrr... and I my courage.
- (5) Dorothy: Yes ! And I can go home. (embraces Toto)
- (6) *They proceed to go into the palace. A doorkeeper blows (his trumpet) and stops them.*
- (7) Doorkeeper: Hey. What do you want with Smaragd City ?
- (8) Dorothy: We want to meet the great Oz ! Only he can help us.
- (9) Doorkeeper: Then you must know that the great Oz may become angry, if somebody makes him nervous by trifling things.
- (10) Tin Woodman: But what we want are not trifling things. I want a heart.
- (11) Scarecrow: And I a brain.
- (12) Lion: And I courage.
- (13) Dorothy: And we want to go home.
- (14) Doorkeeper: You need to put on these glasses to go to the great Oz.

**Scene 10** (p.14)

In the palace the soldiers inform Oz of the request of Dorothy and her friends.

- (15) Zaldot 1: (féiert Dotti bei d'Bänk) Sou, dir sétzt eech hei. Ech gi lo mol bei dee groussen Oz froën, ob en eech iwwerhaapt empfanke wëllt
- (16) Zaldot 2: Dir doarft op kee Fall no hanne kucken ! Soss ...
- (17) *Zaldot 1 geet no hannen.*
- (18) Blechm: Mir wäerte jo nik rëm heemgeschéckt gin ! Sniiff
- (19) *Zaldot 1 kënnt rëm, stellt sech bei d'Dotti a weist mam Fanger op ët.*
- (20) Zaldot 1: Du däerfs fir d'éischt gon. Wéi ech deem groussen Oz gesot hun, dass du Sëlwerschung an een Hexekuss op der Stir häss, gouf hee ganz fuerwëtzig !

English translation

- (15) Soldier 1: (leads Dorothy to the bench) You sit down here. I go to the great Oz to ask if he would receive you.
- (16) Soldier 2: You must never look inside. Otherwise ...



(17) *Soldier 1 goes inside.*

(18) Tin Woodman: We shall not be sent home again ! Sniffle.

(19) *Soldier 1 comes back, stands by Dorothy and shows it with his finger. .*

(20) Soldier 1: You may go first. When I said to the great Oz that you have a pair of silver shoes and a kissed mark on the forehead, he was very interested in that.

### Scene 11 (pp.15-16)

Dorothy meets Oz who is disguised with a balloon.

(21) Oz: Ech sen den Oz, dee Groussen a Schrecklichen. Wee bass du a wat wëlls du ?

(22) Dotti: Ech sen dat klenge a rengt Dotti an ech brauch deng Hëllef.

(23) Oz: Wou kënnst du un di Schung an dee Kuss op der Stir ?

(24) Dotti: D'Schung krut ech, wéi mengt Haus op déi béis Hex gefall ass a se futti getripst hot an de Kuss, deen hat d'Cara mer gin, wéi hatt mech bei dech geschéckt hott.

(25) Oz: Wat wënschs du Dir vu mir ?

(26) Dotti: Ma ech wëll rëm heem bei meng Tatta Emma a mäi Monni Hari.

(27) Oz: O, o, o ! Dat geet eewer nik sou einfach. Wanns de wëlls datt ech fir dech meng grouss Zauberkräften asätzen, da muss du mir och een Dingst leesten.

(28) Dotti: A wéi een dann ?

(29) Oz: Déi béis Hex vum Westen doutman.

(30) Dotti: Dat kann ech nik !

(31) Oz: Wanns du rëm heem wëlls, muss du dat eewer man. Du hoas dach do déi Sëlwerschung, déi eng grouss Zauberkraaft hun. Réischt, wann ech weess, datt d'Hex dout ass, schécken ech dich heem. A lo, géi !

(32) Dotti: Schluchz, Sniiff. (leeft raus)

### English translation

(21) Oz: I am Oz, the great and awful. Who are you and what do you want ?

(22) Dorothy: I am little and pure Dorothy and I need your help.

(23) Oz: Why do you have the shoes and the kiss mark on your forehead ?

(24) Dorothy: I got the shoes, when my house fell on the wicked witch and crushed her and Cara gave me the kiss, when she sent me to you.

(25) Oz: What do you want from me ?

(26) Dorothy: I want to go home to my aunt Em and my uncle Henry.

(27) Oz: Oh, oh, oh ! That is not so easy. If you want me to exercise my great magic for you, you must also contribute something for me.

(28) Dorothy: What kind of thing then ?

(29) Oz: Kill the wicked witch of the west.

(30) Dorothy: I cannot do it !

(31) Oz: But if you want to go back home, you must do it. After all, you have the silver shoes which have great magical power. When I know that the witch is dead, I will send you home. Now go !

(32) Dorothy: Whimper. (leaves)

### Scene 23 (pp.28-29)

After the death of the wicked witch of the west Dorothy and Oz want to go back to Kansas.

(33) Oz: Sou mäi Kand. Kommt mat.

Sézt dech hei op den Troun a lauschter gutt no. Ech weess lo, wéi ech dech aus dësem Land rauskréien.

(34) Dotti: Ech kommen heem !!!!

(35) Oz: Dat Wichtigst ass, fir dech iwwert déi grouss Wüst ze kréien, déi ronderëm eist Land läit.

(36) Dotti: A wéi geet dat ?

- (37) Oz: Du weess jo dass ech mat engem Ballon hei an dëst Land kouw. Deen hun ech nach owen op mengem Späicher leien. Dee muss just bësse gefléckt gin.
- (38) Dotti: Do kënnen mer jo all eng Hand mat upaacken. Mir se jo zuvill.
- (39) Oz: Jo, a wa mer eis gutt drugin, kënnen mir geschwënn fléien.
- (40) Dotti: Wat heescht mir ? Geess du och mat ?
- (41) Oz: Kloar ! Ech hu keng Lost méi, de Legd eppes virzeman. Ausserdeem sen ech och ëmmer a mengem Palast hei agespoart.
- (42) Dotti: Ma ech se ganz frou, wanns du mat kënns. Merci Oz.
- (43) Oz: Gär geschigt mäi Kand. Sou, lo musse mer eis eewer un d'Oarbicht man.

English translation

- (33) Oz: So my child. Come along.  
Sit on the throne here and listen carefully. Now I know how I can take you out of this country.
- (34) Dorothy: I go home !!!!
- (35) Oz: The most important thing is to let you go over the large desert which surrounds our country.
- (36) Dorothy: And how can it be done ?
- (37) Oz: Now you know that I came here to this country on a balloon. I still have it in my storeroom upstairs. It needs a little mending.
- (38) Dorothy: Then we can help you all of us together. We are many in numbers.
- (39) Oz: Yes, and as soon as we complete it, we can fly.
- (40) Dorothy: What do you mean by 'we' ? Do you want to leave, too ?
- (41) Oz: Of course ! I do not have any more intention to trick people. And I always shut myself up here in the palace.
- (42) Dorothy: I am glad that you will come along. Thank you, Oz.
- (43) Oz: You are welcome, my child. So we must begin the work now.

**Scene 29** (pp.34-36)

Glinda, the good witch of the south, tells the magic of the silver shoes to Dorothy and her friends. Consequently Dorothy can go back home at last.

- (44) Glinda: (vo lénks) Wat kann ech fir dech man, mäi Kand ?
- (45) Dotti: No all deem, wat ech lo hei am Land Oz erlieft hun, ass et mäi gréisste Wunsch, lo heem bei meng Tatta Emma a mäi Monni Hari ze kommen.
- (46) Glinda: *gëtt dem Dotti e Kuss op d'Stir.*  
Du bass engt gutt Kand an ech hëllefén dir ganz gär. Mee, so mol Stréikapp, wat wells DU da man, wann d'Dotti fort ass ?
- (47) Strk: Ech well rem zrëck an d'Smaragdstad. Den Oz hott mech als säi Nofolger ernannt a mengt Vollik hott mech ganz gär.
- (48) Glinda: An du Blechmetti, wat méchs du ouni Dotti ?
- (49) Blechm: D'Winkie ware sou léif mat mir an ech se sou frou mat hinnen. Nom Dout vun där béiser Hex aus dem Westen, hu si mech gefrot, ob ech hire Kinnek wëllt gin.
- (50) Glinda: Nun zu dir Léiw, wat gëtt dann aus dir, wann d'Dotti bis fort ass ?
- (51) Léiw: Ech well zrëck an dee wonnerbare Bësch. D'Déire vun do hu mech gefrot, ob ech si beschütze wëllt. An als Kinnek vun den Déiren muss ech dat jo bal man. Ausserdeem, uaaaa, hun ech do meng grouss Léift kennegeleiert.
- (52) Blechm: Mmmmmhhhh !
- (53) Glinda: Och äer Wensch kann ech mat mengen Zauberkräften erfëllen an dir hutt et wierklich verdingt: D'Dotti hott eng onheimlich Chance esou gutt an trei Frënn fonnt ze hunn. .
- (54) Dotti: Dat as jo alles ganz richtig. Mee, dir hutt mir nach emmer nik gesot, wéi ech heem kommen.
- (55) Glinda: *berouigt d'Dotti a laacht*  
Du hoss jo di schéi Sëlwerschung do un. Wanns du gewosst häss, wéi hir Zauberkraaft funktionéiert, dann häss

du scho kënnen deen éischten Dag heemgon.

(56) Strk.: Dann hätt ech eewer kee Verstand kritt.

(57) Blechm.: An ech keen Häerz.

(58) Léiw: An ech kee Courage.

(59) Dotti: An ech hätt eech niiiiini kenne geléiert.

*Kleng Paus*

Mee lo, wou jo jidderee glécklich ass, wëll ech just nach heem !!

(60) Glinda: Dofir brauchst du d'Talon'en vun dénge Schung nëmmen dräimol zesummenzeschloun an ze son: Hucki-Rucki-Zucki !

(61) Strk.: Dat do wusst ech !

(62) Dotti: Ha, ha, ha !! Wéi einfach ! Äddi meng gutt Frënn ! Dir sëdd di Best !

*stellt sich op* ECH WELL HEEM ! Hucki-Rucki-Zucki !

#### English translation

(44) Glinda: (from the left side) What can I do for you, my child ?

(45) Dorothy: Now after all that I have experienced here in the land of Oz, it is my greatest desire to go back to my Aunt Em and my Uncle Henry.

(46) Glinda: *kisses to Dorothy on the forehead.*

You are a good child and I am happy to help you. But, now Scarecrow, what do you want to do, if Dorothy goes away ?

(47) Scarecrow: I want to go back to Smaragdstad. Oz appointed me his successor and my people like me very much.

(48) Glinda: And you, Tin Woodman, what will you do without Dorothy ?

(49) Tin Woodman: The Winkies liked me very much and I like them very much. After the death of the wicked witch from the west they asked me if I would like to be their king.

(50) Glinda: Now you, lion, what will you be, if Dorothy goes away ?

(51) Lion: I want to go back to the wonderful bush. The animals there asked me if would like to protect them. And as the king of animals I really must do it. Besides, uaaaa, I have met my sweet heart there.

(52) Tin Woodman: Mmmmmhhhh !

(53) Glinda: I can grant your wishes with my magic and you are worthy of it, indeed. Dorothy got a wonderful chance to gain so good and faithful friends.

(54) Dorothy: That's all true. But you have not told me yet how I can go home.

(55) Glinda: *soothes Dorothy and laughs.*

You are wearing the beautiful silver shoes. If you had known how its magical power functions, you had already gone home on the first day.

(56) Scarecrow: But then I would have got no intelligence.

(57) Tin Woodman: And I no heart.

(58) Lion: And I no courage.

(59) Dorothy: And I had not got acquainted with you all.

*Short pause*

But because we all are happy now, my only wish is to go home !

(60) Glinda: All you need to do for that is to clap the heels of your shoes three times and say: Hucki-Rucki- Zucki !

(61) Scarecrow: I have learned it !

(62) Dorothy: Ha, ha, ha !! How simple ! Good-by, my good friends ! You are the best !

*Stands up* I WANT TO GO HOME ! Hucki-Rucki-Zucki !

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