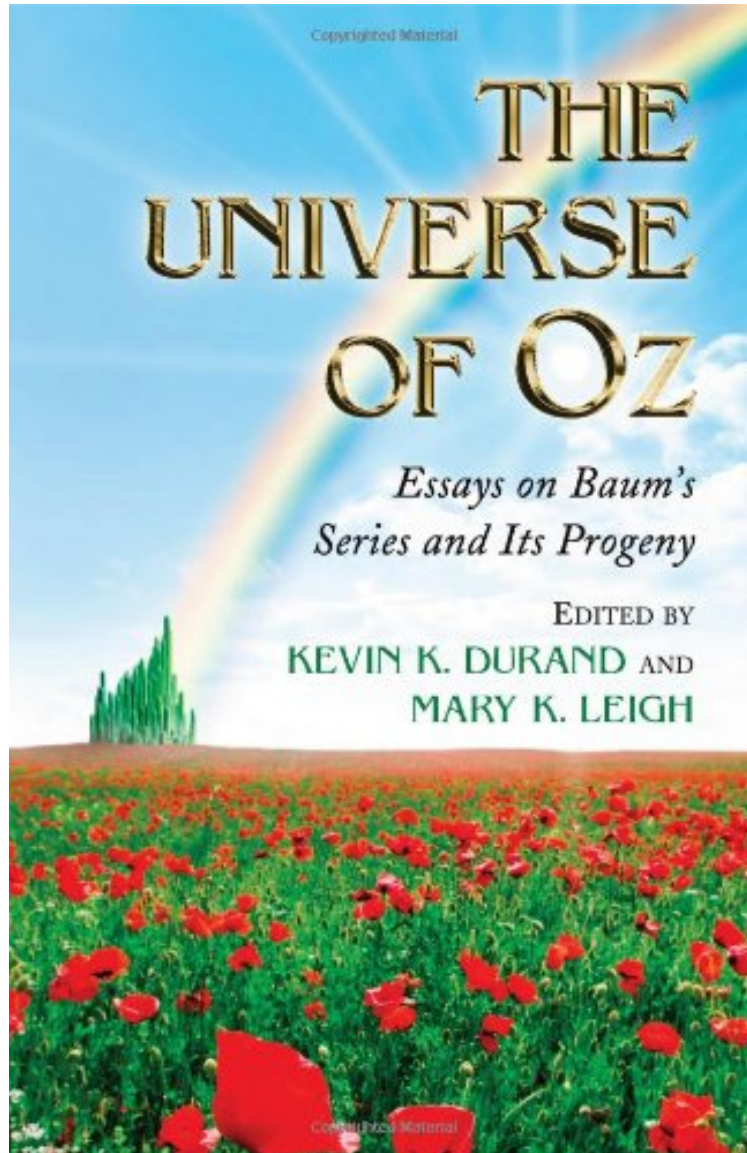


(Free read ebook) The Universe of Oz: Essays on Baum's Series and Its Progeny

## The Universe of Oz: Essays on Baum's Series and Its Progeny

*From McFarland*

*ePub | \*DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#3577304 in Books 2010-02-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.80 x .70 x 5.90l, .75 #File Name: 0786446285258 pages | File size: 67.Mb

**From McFarland :** **The Universe of Oz: Essays on Baum's Series and Its Progeny** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Universe of Oz: Essays on Baum's Series and Its Progeny:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Wonderful Jumping Off Point for the Oz Scholar (with a few flaws)By Joshua de VriesThe book is a collection of critical scholarly essays written on every notable aspect of The Wizard of Oz's monoithic status in pop culture, from the original children's story to the 1939 film, to The Wiz, Tin

Man, Wicked (book and musical) and beyond. As an overview of Oz scholarship (or as a way for Oz aficionados to further explore the themes, trends, and implications of their favorite fantasy world), the book is very informative and contains many truly intriguing theories and comparisons. Those well-versed in pop culture will appreciate the references given to Star Wars, Star Trek, Disney animated films, popular young adult fiction like Harry Potter, the Buffy-verse, etc. I also appreciate how the collection contains essays touching on a wide sampling of literary theory (everywhere from Freud, to queer theory, to philosophy, to culture studies, and modernism) and doesn't really hold to any one specific interpretation overall. My one issue with this collection is that it is riddled with typos and small mistakes that, while they don't affect what is being said, do affect the credibility of some of the works. For example the preface makes reference to comparing pop culture to "the pigs in 1984 [the novel], some is much more equal than others" (2) when the reference is clearly to Animal Farm. One article misspells the director of the 1939 Oz film, Victor Fleming's last name as "Leming", and another, looking at pop culture myths, misspells Star Wars' Han Solo's first name as "Hans." While these small errors don't really affect the overall arguments made, they do stand out rather blatantly. For a collection that is supposed to be focusing on pop culture scholarship (a legitimate field which is sometimes derided by traditionalist academics) these kinds of mistakes seem to point to a lack of knowledge in the field. I don't regret purchasing this book, since it contains a wealth of useful information and it is a great way to expand one's feelers and find other scholarly texts analyzing the Oz-verse, but it would be nice if a revised and corrected edition was put out in the near future.

The Wizard of Oz has captured the imagination of the public since publication of L. Frank Baum's first book of the series in 1900. Oz has shaped the way we read children's literature, view motion pictures and experience musicals. Oz has captured the scholarly imagination as well. The seventeen essays in this book address numerous questions of the boundaries between literature, film, and stage--and these have become essential to Oz scholarship. Together the essays explore the ways in which Oz tells us much about ourselves, our society, and our journeys.

"Wide range of fascinating articles about Oz and its place in our culture." --SFRA .About the Author Kevin K. Durand is Math and Physics Professor at the LISA Academy College Preparatory School in Little Rock, Arkansas. He has published broadly in philosophy, religion, and ethics. Mary K. Leigh is a Doctoral Academy Fellow at the University of Arkansas.