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Is It Soup Yet?

Anne Jacobs

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Paynter, Gail C. *Is It Soup Yet?* Meriwether Publishing, Ltd. 1999. 24 pp.

Reviewer: Anne Jacobs;
Reading Level: Intermediate;
Rating: Dependable;
Genre:
Subject:

A clumsy witch places a spell on her princess granddaughter so that she can't eat anything. Unfortunately, the witch can't remember how to undo the spell, but there is a catch: if the girl eats something made from nothing, the spell will be broken. A pan boy agrees to do "the impossible" and makes stone soup (something made of nothing). He succeeds by getting all of the ingredients from people passing by.

This play is charmingly funny in places, and directors would need to employ slapstick techniques to enhance the physical humor.

Directors would have to incorporate physical humor to compensate for the play's simple plot if they want to capture the audience's attention. The sometimes witty dialogue makes up for the lack of creativity in the plot itself.

The play requires audience participation, which is appropriate for younger children and will capture their attention span for a longer period of time. It also teaches that one can accomplish the impossible if one is clever enough.

Is It Soup Yet? has a cast of twenty-three characters, some of which can be double cast, and requires at least eight females and seven males (the remainder of the cast can be either).