



2003

### Crumple, Rumpelstiltskin

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McCallum, Phyllis. *Crumple, Rumpelstiltskin*. Pioneer Drama Service, 1974. Contact publisher regarding price. 27 pp.

Reviewer: Mindy Nelsen

Reading Level: Preschool; Primary;

Rating: Dependable;

Genre: Fairy Tales; Plays; Fantasy Plays;

Subject: Drama--Reviews; Magic--Juvenile drama; Family--Juvenile drama; Lying--Juvenile drama;

Theme: Money and lies can't bring you happiness, only the truth can.

Production Requirements: Simplistic set, 2 thrones, rugs, but multiple props.

Acts: 1

Run Time: 20-25 min

Characters: 7

Cast: 3 F / 4 M

Time Period: past or present

This play follows the basic story of the traditional fairy tale *Rumpelstiltskin*. The playwright has chosen to add the character of Grump who serves as the palace butler, cook, footman, chamberlain and parlor maid and whose primary function is to involve the audience in the production and enlists the audience's help twice during the production.

The play moves along quickly with the dialogue. Its stereotypical characters are what the audience expects from the story, but they are far too underdeveloped to really promote the plot. This particular production involves the audience, twice asking children to come up and help with a bit of dusting or moving of boxes, each time rewarding that member with a cupcake. This audience interaction is fun and engaging. The production would be very simplistic with few, but specific props. Those props most difficult to locate would be two thrones, ropes painted gold, and a spinning wheel - though its function can be hidden from the audience. The script seems to cram a lot of information into a limited space, but the play is portable and would make a nice traveling show in some cases.