

Author
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HELLO, YOU THE FROG?

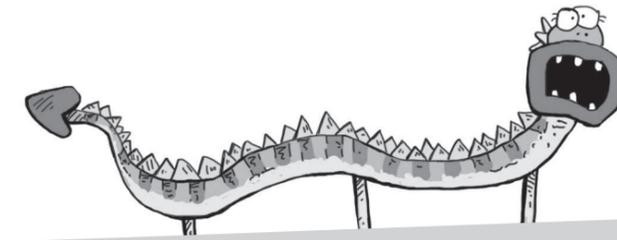
Plays for children ages 6 to 10

Illustrated by
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Translated to English by
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ODISEJA
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About the book:

Jasminka Petrović, our popular and award-winning author, was often engaged in theaters and television over the recent years, and she used this experience to write a collection of short plays for children's theatre of younger school age. They are convenient for performing at home, in the classroom or on stage.

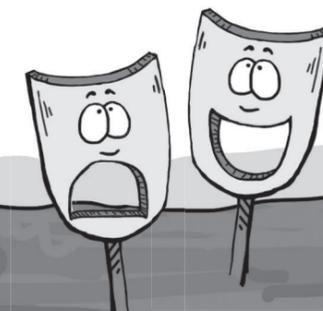
Jasminka Petrović always bears in mind those working with children, the teachers, librarians, workshop leaders, and provides additional content for them: discussion topics, home assignments, ideas for linking individual plays with different school subjects. She also included in the book a short and age-specific glossary of theatrical terms.

The book is graphically designed and illustrated by Ana Petrović, her talented daughter. This close cooperation within the Petrović family workshop contributed to the beauty of this book.

The collection contains 20 plays for home and school children's theatre: ten for children ages 6-8, and ten for children ages 8-10.

The author recommends theatre and acting for all children, not just for future actors, given that it promotes self-confidence and imagination, and helps fight the stage fright. Also, since the theater encompasses a variety of arts (literature, music, painting, performing arts, etc) children have the opportunity to discover their hidden talents.

Jasminka Petrović's message is "Learn through play, create out of joy. Be yourselves and a little bit better."





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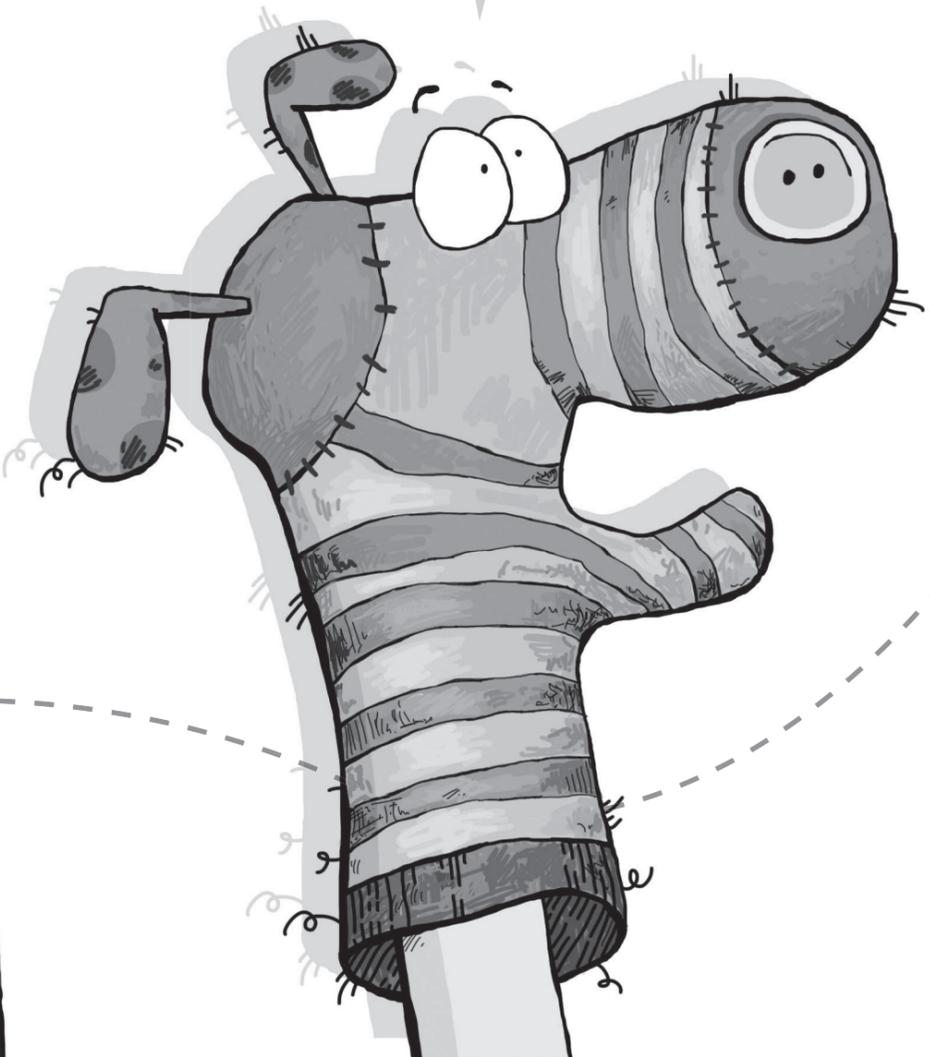
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Drama plays
for children
ages 6 to 8



THREE INSOLENT DAUGHTERS



Characters: WITCH GOGGLES, WITCH DILLIDALLY, WITCH MINCEPIE, and their daughters NETTLE (7 years old), COVERALL (6 years old) and PRUNE (8 years old)



(A small city park. Three BFF witches are sitting on a park bench and chatting, while their three daughters are playing in the lower part of the stage. Each witch has her broom parked by her side.)

WITCH GOGGLES: My daughter is so ugly she makes all the rats scatter for miles away! And when she meets a monster in the street, the poor thing has to cross to the other side, she's just so terrifying to them.

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Ha, that's nothing! My daughter never showers. I simply don't know what smells worse, her breath or her shoes!

WITCH GOGGLES: All right, all right, I'll admit that your daughter smells worse than mine. But mine has a bigger nose! The handle on my broom is a tooth pick compared to her schnozzle.

WITCH DILLIDALLY: And you should see just how lazy my Coverall is! She won't pick up a comb, let alone wash her hair. And she's never seen inside of a hairdresser's in her life!



Clothes worn by the actor on stage are called costumes. The artist creating them is the costume designer.

Suggestion:

Be the costume designer in this play and create the costumes for the witches. You can make the witch hats out of cardboard and use the black nylon garbage bags for their robes. Naturally, you can always use the old wardrobe borrowed from your relatives and neighbors.



Single actor play: Play a lazy person but without using words. Use only body movements and facial expressions. This type of acting is called pantomime or mime.



Discussion topics:

Why are work habits important? Do you have work habits? Do you tend to finish everything you started? Do you know how to make a study plan? Where and how do you do your homework?

WITCH GOGGLES: My daughter is so ugly she makes all the rats scatter for miles away! And when she meets a monster in the street, the poor thing has to cross to the other side, she's just so terrifying to them.

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WITCH GOGGLES: (Looking at the Witch Mincepie) Dear Mincepie, why are you so quiet? Don't you have nice things to say about your Prune?

WITCH MINCEPIE: (In a troubled voice) Oh, you don't want to know! She got involved with the right crowd and she took up going to school!

WITCH GOGGLES: To school?!

WITCH MINCEPIE: Yes, yes, I'm worried sick. I've been losing sleep for weeks now.

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Wait... You mean, every morning she gets up at eight, washes her face, eats breakfast, packs her books...?

WITCH MINCEPIE: Yup, that's right.

WITCH DILLIDALLY: ... Studies, does her homework?

WITCH MINCEPIE: (Nodding) Absolutely. She reads, does her homework, takes showers, combs and washes her hair, smiles, says thank you and please...

WITCH GOGGLES: Tsk, tsk, tsk... How horrible!

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Have you given her the soursop and cats claw portion?

WITCH MINCEPIE: A dozen times already! And I've also added boogeyman eardrops for better results...

WITCH GOGGLES: And?

WITCH MINCEPIE: And nothing!

WITCH GOGGLES: Well, did she start using bad words, spitting in the street, sticking her tongue out...?

WITCH MINCEPIE: Nothing of the sort! Her manners are getting more polite by the day, makes me sick to my stomach! And all the A's she's been bringing home: an „A“ in math, an „A“ in fine arts, an „A“ in French... Oh, I can't take it any longer, I'm going bananas!

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Take it easy, dear Mincepie, calm down!

WITCH MINCEPIE: (Bursting into tears) It's easy for you to talk, Dillydally. Your daughter can't spell a single letter, while mine reads books from the required reading list. (Sobs profusely.)

WITCH GOGGLES: Don't you worry now! Me and Dillydally will think of something.

(Witches GOGGLES and DILLIDALLY huddle, consulting and whispering to each other, while WITCH MINCEPIE cries and sobs. From time to time she wipes her nose with her sleeve.)

WITCH DILLIDALLY: (Jumps up suddenly) We have the solution!



Suggestion:

With your class mates, create theater etiquette, using the appropriate texts and illustrations.



Discussion topics:

Is there someone around you who behaves rudely and violently? What is your opinion of such behavior? Can art affect a change in the behavior of bullies? What kind of music calms an angry person? How can theater help children in growing up?



Ballet is a dance art performed on stage. Accompanied by music, the ballet dancers use their body movements to portray events and feelings.



The stage director ensures that all elements of a theater performance are put together in the best way possible. In the theater, the guiding rule is the musketeer motto: „One for all and all for one”.

WITCH MINCEPIE: Well, speak up, speak up!

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Your Prune needs to socialize with our daughters! Nettle and Coverall will ruin her before you can say “hocus pocus”. They will teach her to kick and pinch other children, grab snacks and mobile phones...

WITCH MINCEPIE: (*Wipes off her tears and sniffs*) Oh, if only they could teach her to pick her nose!

WITCH GOGGLES: But of course, it'll be a piece of cake! I'll have you know that my Nettle completed the “Permanent Removal of Good Manners” seminar with the famous Professor Skunkfart.

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Not that I'm bragging, but my Coverall twice won award at the world's “Bad Habits” fair.

WITCH MINCEPIE: (*Bursts into tears all over again*) Oh, good for youuu! My Windmill never picked her nose. How about that, I ask you?! Imagine a witch who can't pick her nose! I even found a handkerchief in her pocket! A genuine handkerchief! It's just dreadful!

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Oh, you poor thing, the troubles that you've had...!
(*COVERALL comes running to her mother, WITCH DILLYDALLY*)

COVERALL: (*Excited*) Mom, mom, I want to take ballet classes..!

DILLIDALLY WITCH: What?! Coverall, what's wrong with you? What's that nonsense?!

COVERALL: Oh, please Mom, please. I want to have a pink ballet tutu dress and pink ballet slippers, and I want to dance like this... (*Dances on her toes.*)

WITCH DILLIDALLY: Child, you're delirious, you must be running a fever. (*DILLIDALLY puts her hand on Coverall's forehead.*) Yup, she's burning. We must go home right now! (*Just then NETTLE and PRUNE come scuttling happily.*)

NETTLE: Mom, I want to become a library member and read books and learn everything about other countries, people, planets...

WITCH GOGGLES: (*Alarmed*) Nettle, what are you babbling about? Where did you hear of such disgusting things? Don't you know that when small witches say such bad words, warts fall off their noses and they become beautiful and noble?

NETTLE: Mom, when I grow up I'm going to be a good fairy, and a fairy doesn't have a wart on her nose.

WITCH GOGGLES: (*Furious*) We'll talk about this when we get home.

PRUNE: And I want to be a theater director!

WITCH MINCEPIE: What does he do, does he cast direness and doom around the theater?

PRUNE: No, Mom, the director is an artist who stages theatre plays with actors. Everything in the theater is like a dream!

WITCH MINCEPIE: Ew, gross! Pooh theater, pooh that nonsense!

WITCH DILLIDALLY: My dear witches, what's happening to our children?! How do we save them from this terrible infection?

WITCH GOGGLES: Let's go back to fairy tales right now!

WITCH DILLIDALLY: All aboard brooms!

(*Witches straddle their brooms.*)

WITCH MINCEPIE: Let's beat it of here!

(*They leave the stage in a run.*)

THE END



Something to think about:

Do school teachers and theatre directors have something in common?

Be a choreographer and create ballet movements for Coverall's character in this scene. Bear in mind that she is a clumsy little witch.



Бакрач је посуда која се некада користила за грејање воде на ватри. Израз „Ма, какви бакрачи” казује да је нешто сасвим неважно.