



## Witches, The (Acting Edition)

*By David Wood*

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**Witches, The (Acting Edition)** By David Wood

21 characters (4 males, 6 females (w/ doubling))

This popular children's book has been magically adapted into a play that toured extensively before its successful West End production at the Duke of York Theatre.

"While the kids will be thrilled by the dazzling illusions and the complex puppetry, their parents will be no less engaged by the sly humor that lurks within this ostensibly frivolous confection."-What's On

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## **Witches, The (Acting Edition) By David Wood Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #3775841 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2010-10-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .16" w x 5.51" l, .25 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 76 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

### Amazon.com Review

"This is not a fairy tale. This is about real witches." So begins one of Roald Dahl's best books ever, and, ironically, it is such a great story because the premise is perfectly plausible from the outset. When the narrator's parents die in a car crash on page two (contrast this terribly real demise with that of James's parents who are devoured by an escaped rhinoceros in *James and the Giant Peach*), he is taken in by his cigar-smoking Norwegian grandmother, who has learned a storyteller's respect for witches and is wise to their ways.

The bond between the boy and his grandmother becomes the centerpiece of the tale--a partnership of love and understanding that survives even the boy's unfortunate transformation into a mouse. And once the two have teamed up to outwitch the witches, the boy's declaration that he's glad he's a mouse because he will now live only as long as his grandmother is far more poignant than eerie.

Of course, there's adventure here along with Dahl's trademark cleverness and sense of the grotesque. Dahl also communicates some essential truths to children: if they smoke cigars, they'll never catch cold, and, most importantly, they should never bathe, because a clean child is far, far easier for a witch to smell than a dirty one. (*Ages 7 to 10, or read aloud to younger children*)

### Review

"How is it it's so real you think it must be true ... and so fantastic you can't begin to guess what will happen next?" New Statesman

### About the Author

Roald Dahl is considered one of the most beloved writers of our time. Although he passed away in 1990, his popularity continues to increase as his fantastic novels, including *The Witches* and *Matilda*, delight an ever-growing legion of fans.

Lynn Redgrave has had an extraordinary career, encompassing two Oscar® nominations, two Tony® nominations and one Emmy® nomination. She has starred in such films as *Gods and Monsters*, *Shine* and *Georgy Girl*.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Evita Young:**

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