

# What if? The Hansel & Gretel Tale

By Jason Hodgson

Ratio of performers: "Witch" : Hansel & Gretel: Reader = 1:2:1

The Readers 'Script'.

When instructed to do so on the score, reading out the corresponding quotes from *The Uses of Enchantment* by Bruno Bettelheim (Penguin Books, 1991).

1. These tales, like the child in his own imagining, usually start out in a quite realistic way (...) That is, the story begins with a real but somewhat problematic situation. (pp.61)
2. Carried away by their uncontrolled craving, the children think nothing of destroying what should give shelter and safety (...) (pp.160)
3. A witch as created by the child's anxious fantasies will haunt him; but a witch he can push into her own oven and burn to death is a witch the child can believe himself rid of. (pp.166)

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<p><i>The "Witch"</i></p>	<p><b>Freeze!</b></p>	<p>Meditating by the fire aware of only the crackling and warmth of the fire</p>		<p><b>Freeze!</b></p>	<p>Meditating by the fire aware of only the crackling and warmth of the fire</p>			<p><i>Snap out of state</i></p>	
<p>Blissful, steady</p>		<p>Blissful, steady</p>			<p>Blissful, steady</p>			<p>Listening</p>	
<p><i>p</i> -----</p>		<p><i>p</i> -----</p>			<p><i>p</i> -----</p>			<p><i>silent</i></p>	
<p><i>Hansel &amp; Gretel</i></p>	<p><b>Freeze!</b></p>	<p><i>Lost, tired, cold and Scared</i></p>	<p>(inhale breath) - (wide eyed) - <b>LOOK!</b></p>	<p><b>Freeze!</b></p>	<p>They spot the Gingerbread house. They're hungry: They tip-toe towards it...</p>	<p><b>THEY BREAK INTO A RUN!</b></p>	<p>they have a taste ...</p>	<p><b>GORGE!!!</b></p>	
<p>Innocent, unsteady</p>		<p>Innocent, unsteady</p>	<p>Spoken (almost whispered)</p>		<p>Curious</p>	<p>Excited</p>	<p>Wary</p>	<p><b>Greedy</b></p>	
<p><i>mp</i> -----</p>		<p><i>mp</i> -----</p>	<p><i>poco cresc.</i></p>		<p><i>sf</i> -----</p>	<p><i>pp</i> --</p>	<p><i>sfff -- fff</i> -----</p>		
<p><i>Reader</i></p>	<p>Read '1.'</p>			<p>Read '2.'</p>					



*What if? The Hansel Gretel Tale*

<i>The "Witch"</i>	<i>Tries to catch the children. Grabbing in the air, so far unsuccessfully.....</i>	<b>C A U G H T</b>	<b>Freeze!</b>	<b>T H E . E N D</b>
	<b>DETERMINED</b>			
	<i>fff</i>			
<i>Hansel &amp; Gretel</i>	<i>Tries to run but are too <b>full</b> and <b>fat</b></i>			
	<i><b>Terrified</b></i>			
	<i>fff</i>			
<i>Reader</i>			Read '3.'	