# **STONE SOUP**

adaptation by Oana Drăghicescu

## **PART I**

**NARRATOR:** Many years ago, 3 soldiers, hungry and tired of so many battles, arrived in a small village. The peasants here barely survived overnight as a result of a poor harvest and many years of war. They quickly gathered in the village square to greet the soldiers but did so with their bare hands. They began to complain that they had nothing left and that they were starving.

**SOLDIERS**: - Hello! Good Christians!

**VILLAGER** 1: -Have you come to our village? What a shame!

**VILLAGER 2**: - We are poor, we have no food!

VILLAGER 3: -Yes, we have nothing to eat!

**CHILDREN OF THE VILLAGE**: - Yes, we are starving!

VILLAGER 4: - God forgot us!

**VILLAGER 5**: - We haven't had such a poor harvest this year since we've known each other!

VILLAGER 6: - And with this war, which never ends, we still have to feed others!

**NARRATOR**: The soldiers quickly exchanged a few words. Then they turned to the village elders.

**SOLDIER 1:** - Your land has impoverished you, but we will teach you from what little we have: The secret with which you can make stone soup.

**NARRATOR**: Of course the peasants were intrigued by the soldier's words, but they lit the fire and boiled the largest pot of water. And the soldiers threw the three pebbles into the water.

**STAGE INDICATION:** Village 5 and Village 2 bring the pot

STAGE INDICATION: Villager 3 brings wood for the fire

**STAGE INDICATION:** Each soldier throws a pebble.

### **PARTEA A II-A**

**SOLDIER 2:** - This will be a very good soup!

**SOLDIER 3:** - But a little salt would make it wonderful!

**NARRATOR**: At that moment a peasant woman stood up and said:

**VILLAGER 6:** -Thank God! I just remembered where there was left.

**STAGE INDICATION:** The villager 6 leaves, then returns, bringing vegetables in his shorts. After she puts the vegetables in the pot, the other villagers go too and do the same.

**STAGE INDICATION:** Two other villagers bring glasses and plates, and villager 6 starts mixing in soup with a large polish. After all the vegetables have been brought, each villager receives soup.

**NARRATOR**: She returned quickly and brought in the kitchen apron, a parsley and a gully. While they were being boiled, other peasants were refreshed. Barley, carrots, beef and sour cream were soon placed in the pot.

Until the soup was ready, another bottle of juice appeared.

The whole village and the three soldiers began to dine. They ate, drank and sang late into the night like never before.

**STAGE INDICATION:** Everyone sings: What wonderful news!

VILLAGERS: What wonderful news In Bethlehem we are shown /: That she gave birth to a baby Baby of the Holy Spirit Clean virgin: /

That in Bethlehem Mary
Making the journey
/: In the poor place
Near that city
He gave birth to the Messiah: /

The eternal Son
What the Father sent me
/: To be born
And to grow
To save us: /

**STAGE INDICATION:** The song ends, and the peasants fall asleep peacefully.

### **PARTEA A III-A**

**NARRATOR:** In the morning when the three soldiers woke up, all the villagers were standing in front of them. At their feet they put a backpack with the best bread and cheese.

VILLAGER 5: - Thank you! You shared the biggest secret with us!

VILLAGER 6: - That of making stone soup!

**VILLAGER 3:** - And for this we will not forget you!

**NARRATOR**: Hearing this, the soldiers turned to the crowd and said:

**SOLDIER 2:** It's no secret!

**SOLDIER 1:** But one thing always remains true!

**SOLDIER 3:** Only by sharing and thanking God for everything can make a great celebration!

**STAGE INDICATION:** All the villagers say goodbye to the soldiers as they walk away.

**NARRATOR**: This is how the people of that village learned to share, to be one in all things and always thank God for everything he gives them and for putting them together in that little village.

And since then the news has spread about that village that no matter how hard the times and no matter how bad the harvests were, people always gathered with joy to thank God around a stone soups ...

**STAGE INDICATION:** All the villagers gather around the cauldron.

#### The end!

### **PROPS**

**CLOTHING:** - of Romanian peasants for all the characters with the role of villagers

- as soldiers for the three soldiers

**OBJECTS:** cauldron, wood, three pebbles, polish, bowls, bottle of juice, glasses, bag

**FOOD:** parsley, carrots, kale, other vegetables, barley, beef, sour cream, bread, cheese.