



Switch Which?

A Pageant for Mothers Out Front

by Pioneer Valley, Mass Mothers Out Front Team

Characters needed:

Alisa- main Mothers Out Front character
Switch Witch
Grandma
Grandpa
Lizzie – daughter
Radio Announcers 1 & 2
cat & dog puppets

Pageant begins:

Grandma & Geoffrey (or any two volunteers) hold the top corners of a bed comforter vertically with one hand and each side of a pillow above it with the other to make an upright bed. Alisa stands behind the comforter and tosses from side to side, unable to sleep.

Alisa: I can't sleep. I've got so much on my mind. How can we use less electricity at home? I'll set the example - no lights on after dark. Wait, no, that won't work. What should I make for the school bake sale next week? Maybe I should make raw oatmeal cookies. Oh, but no one will eat them. I could go down and pick up some cookies in

Hadley. But I drive too much. Maybe we should save up for an electric car. But there are no charging stations in the Valley. Argh! Ugh! Zzzzzz

Switch Witch (Anna) appears.

Alisa (*sits up in bed*): Who are you?

Switch Witch: Why, I'm the Switch Witch.

Alisa (*comes out from under covers & stands in front of bed*): Switch which?

Switch Witch: Yes! It appears you need a switch.

Alisa (*happily surprised*): Well, I... guess I do!

Switch Witch: Well, then, here's one. It's my magic wand. But don't worry, I always keep a spare!

Alisa: But I don't know how to use a magic wand.

Switch Witch: Don't *tell* me... (*muttering*) Unbelievable what's become of magic these days. All right, it looks like she's going to need your help, everyone! Here are the magic words. Repeat after me.

By the power of the switch
Which comes from the witch
Scratchity Scritch
Make the switch!

That's all! Good luck with that. You'll have three switches.

Switch Witch leaves. Alisa gets back in bed. One bed holder hides dog puppet behind covers.

Alisa: Did that really happen or was I dreaming? Hey, what's this? A magic wand?

Cat puppet, puppeteered by cast member, comes in and frolics on the bed.

Alisa: Aw, hey there Mittens. Okay, I've got the wand. Let's see if I can remember the magic words. (*to audience*) Can you say it after me?

By the power of the switch
Which comes from the witch
Scratchity Scritch
Make the switch!
(*Cat turns into dog*)

Mittens! You're a dog now? Weird. I'm pretty sure I just did that with my wand! So I'm supposed to make a switch. But which switch?

Aunt: Later that day...

Alisa (*while frantically preparing a meal*): Lizzie (*or actual name of your child or a volunteer*), can you please feed Mittens?

Lizzie: But mom, Mittens is a dog!

Alisa: Yeah, I know, she's a dog now, but she might like cat food, right? It's like she's trying food from another culture. Anyway, I didn't have time to get dog food today.

Lizzie: We're not having kale salad again, are we? Yucky yucky yucky! (*she exits stage left, Geoffrey enters stage right*)

Sweetie, can you please set the table? My parents should be here any minute.

(*Geoffrey exits stage left. Alisa, looking at a recipe, picks up the magic wand by mistake and starts using it to stir fry something in a pan*)

Grandparents (*from stage right, backs turned to audience*): Ding Dong!

Alisa: Oh, there they are now. I'll get the door. (*to herself, as if a song is in her head*):

By the power of the switch

Which comes from the witch

Scratchity Scritch

Make the switch!

Grandparents turn around and are obviously wearing each others' clothes- something very clich'e like an apron on grandpa and a red and black flannel shirt on grandma.

Alisa: (*taken aback, but recovers enough to give hugs*): Hi mom (to dad)! Hi dad (to mom)!

Grandpa (*in high voice*): Hi, pumpkin.

Grandma (*in low voice*): Hello, m'girl!

Alisa: Uh... come on in. Dinner's not quite ready, but Geoff and Lizzie are in the living room.

What have I done? I just switched my parents!! The Switch Witch said I have three switches. So I must have used up two already. And they haven't done any good at all! I have to switch SOMETHING that will make a difference, but what am I supposed to switch?

Radio Announcer 1: As a mom, I'm super busy, but what could I do if I had just 10 minutes?

Alisa: Hang on there. Let me tune in.

Radio Announcer 2: Actually, there is something you can do with just 10 minutes. Mother's Out Front has partnered with Mass Energy to give you a quick and easy way to switch your household energy source to renewable. Just go to Mothers Out Front.org and click "switch."

Radio Announcer 1: It's that easy?

Radio Announcer 2: Yeah! Just make sure you have your electric bill handy.

Alisa: That's it! *(gets laptop)* My third and final switch! The one that's really going to make the difference! I'll switch my household energy so it comes from renewable sources instead of coal plants! Let's see, Mothers Out Front.org... And there's the switch button! By the power of the switch... Wait a sec! I don't need magic to do this. It's just as quick to do it myself. *(Big dramatic clicking motion)* Enter power company, enter account number, and voila! Wow, I feel so much better. I don't feel guilty about using the electricity we need, because it's coming from wind and solar now! Maybe later I'll check out these Mothers Out Front people and see how I can help get the word out about making the switch.

Now, I guess I've still got that final magic switch to make. I know! *(grabs a big salad bowl in one hand and the wand in the other. Calls to family)* Sit down, everyone, it's time for dinner. *(Grandparents, Geoffrey, and Lizzie enter)* Our first course is, kale salad. *(Points wand at Lizzie)*

By the power of the switch
Which comes from the witch
Scratchity Scratch
Make the switch!

Lizzie: Yum, mom! Kale salad? That's my favorite.

THE END