Review of putnam county spelling bee



The Putnam County Spelling Bee is a play about a group of middle school students who are competing to win the 25th annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. The competition is fierce, but in the end only one can win. The play was fun, interesting, and different. The wide variety of characters made the play amusing and at times a little bit over the top. Even though the play had a few minor flaws, it was still very enjoyable.

First I shall discuss the positives of the play. The main purpose of the Putnam County Spelling Bee is to make the audience laugh. It does a very good job at this. The jokes were hilarious, sarcastic, and occasionally brilliant. The quality of the play was decent, and the actors played their roles well. The acting and the characters are the strength of the play. One of these characters was William Barfee. He stole the show with his "Magic Foot". His odd technique of spelling words with his foot, all while moving and dancing across the stage, carried him to the final. It was scenes such as this that made the show, and gave it distinct characteristics that you can't find in other plays.

Even though the play was mainly a comedy, there were also scenes of caring, regret, and sadness. These instances were rare, but when performed they were intense and emotional. A good example is when one of the competitors, her name was Olive, is daydreaming about her mother and father. Her mother is in India doing work and her father is never around. She imagines her parents telling her how important, smart, and loved she is. The scene is vastly different from the majority of the play; however it is a nice change from the constant comedy.

Finally I will discuss the negatives. The only thing I didn't find clear about the play is the moral. I assume it is to try your hardest in everything you do, but I could be mistaken. The other thing I had an issue with was the sexual jokes. I realize it is a comedy, but some of the jokes could have been left out. The only question I have is why the play didn't deal with more of the emotional scenes. They were quite enthralling and captivating.

Overall the play was immensely enjoyable, well-acted, absorbing, and of course funny. The few minor flaws were so small that they were hard to notice. If you enjoy comedies that make you think and laugh, this play is for you. I highly recommend this play to people of all ages.