The Stone Soup

This story happens in hard times. The country is very poor and the people have little money and food. They don't want to share anything.

Three friends come to a village. They are very hungry.
They can see that nobody is friendly.
Nobody wants to give them food for dinner or bed for the night.

The friends are very clever and they have a good idea. They all smile but they don't say anything. They stop in the middle of the village, where everybody can see them. They speak very loudly, so everybody can hear them.

The first friend says: Well, let's have dinner!
The second friend says: But we have no food!
The third friend says: Don't worry! We have the magic stone!
The first friend says: Let's have some stone soup!
The second friend says: Oh! That is my favourite!
The third friend says: Yes, nothing is like a tasty stone soup!

They get some wood and make a fire. They take out a big pot and put it on the fire with the stone in it.

Then the three friends say: Now we only need some water! The teacher hears this and he comes to them: I can give you water! But then let me eat from the soup! They say: Ok! You can come and join us! The stone and the water are in the pot. The three friends and the teacher cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good, but if we add some salt, it will be better!
The doctor hears this and he comes to them:
I can give you some salt! But then let me eat from the soup!
They say: Ok! You can come and join us!
The stone, the water and the salt are in the pot.
The three friends, the teacher and the doctor cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good, but if we add some pepper, it will be better!
The shopkeeper hears this and he comes to them:
I can give you some pepper! But then let me eat from the soup!
They say: Ok! You can come and join us!
The stone, the water, the salt and the pepper are in the pot.
The three friends, the teacher, the doctor and the shopkeeper cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good, but if we add some onions, it will be better!
The farmer hears this and he comes to them:
I can give you some onions! But then let me eat from the soup!
They say: Ok! You can come and join us!
The stone, the water, the salt, the pepper and the onions are in the pot.
The three friends, the teacher, the doctor, the shopkeeper and the farmer cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good, but if we add some potatoes, it will be better!

The policeman hears this and he comes to them:

I can give you some potatoes! But then let me eat from the soup!

They say: Ok! You can come and join us!

The stone, the water, the salt, the pepper, the onions and the potatoes are in the pot.

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The three friends, the teacher, the doctor, the shopkeeper, the farmer and the policeman cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good,

but if we add some carrots, it will be better!

The fireman hears this and he comes to them:

I can give you some carrots! But then let me eat from the soup!

They say: Ok! You can come and join us!

The stone, the water, the salt, the pepper, the onions, the potatoes and the carrots are in the pot.

The three friends, the teacher, the doctor, the shopkeeper, the farmer,

the policeman and the fireman cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good, but if we add some beans, it will be better!
The postman hears this and he comes to them:
I can give you some beans! But then let me eat from the soup!
They say: Ok! You can come and join us!
The stone, the water, the salt, the pepper, the onions, the potatoes, the carrots and the beans are in the pot.
The three friends, the teacher, the doctor, the shopkeeper, the farmer, the policeman, the fireman and the postman cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good, but if we add some peas, it will be better!
The cleaner hears this and he comes to them:
I can give you some peas! But then let me eat from the soup!
They say: Ok! You can come and join us!
The stone, the water, the salt, the pepper, the onions, the potatoes, the carrots, the beans and the peas are in the pot.
The three friends, the teacher, the doctor, the shopkeeper, the farmer, the policeman, the fireman, the postman and the cleaner cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: This stone soup smells very good, but if we add some meat, it will be better!

The butcher hears this and he comes to them:

I can give you some meat! But then let me eat from the soup!

They say: Ok! You can come and join us!

The stone, the water, the salt, the pepper, the onions, the potatoes, the carrots, the beans, the peas and the meat are in the pot.

The three friends, the teacher, the doctor, the shopkeeper, the farmer, the policeman, the fireman, the postman, the cleaner and the butcher cook and wait.

Then the three friends say: We cannot see the stone in the pot. It means the stone soup is ready! It smells very good. But if we eat it with some bread, it will be better! The baker hears this and he comes to them: I can give you some bread! But then let me eat from the soup! They say: Ok! You can come and join us! The three friends, the teacher, the doctor, the shopkeeper, the farmer, the policeman, the fireman, the postman, the cleaner, the butcher and the baker have a great dinner together. They are all full and very happy.

The people from the village say:
You are right! This magic stone can cook a very good soup!
But the three friends say:
No, you are wrong!
You can cook a very good soup together if you all share your food!

THE END