

# How to Celebrate Halloween



add a deal of spice to the occasion. Eating a green apple late at night is warranted to be followed by sure-to-come true dreams.

An old Scotch sport for this evening is known as "frying." A man mixes the batter, and, according to her liking for the lad that is to fry it, she makes it thick or thin. If it is too thin, he cannot fry it without breaking, but if he can turn it successfully he may hope to win the girl.

The lad who takes a hazel wood branch in his teeth and starts out blindfold is sure to wander to the lattice of his true love and his voice will be stirred with a wonderfully entrancing melody.

A good finish for the evening is to put out all of the lights when the fire has burned low, then bring in a large dish of dry suit, pour a pint or so of alcohol over it. Light it, and in the sickly, ghastly light which is given out, have the most romantic person present tell ghost stories until all are afraid to go to bed.

## To Give a Unique Halloween Party.

Informal invitations may be sent to a dozen friends, the note paper having in one corner a pen and ink sketch of a witch riding on a broomstick. Much pains should be taken with the decorations of the house, that they may be effective and appropriate to the occasion. Cornstalks tied to the banister should completely hide the stairs; a screen standing in front of the dining-room door should also be covered with cornstalks, a heavy cord at the top and bottom holding them securely.

Yellow ears of corn, with husks turned back and tied at equal distances to heavy twine, form a fringe which is to be fastened over windows and in doorways. The only light used must be that which comes from the grinning faces of a dozen Jack-o'-lanterns, some placed on the chandeliers, over the gas, while others with candles may be placed on mantles and tables. In the hall should stand a tub of water in which float rosy apples, temptingly inviting the guests to "bob" for them; other apples being placed on tables with fruit knives invitingly near, that one may take off a lousy peeling, swing it three times around the head, then throw it to see whose initial it will form.

In front of the open fire may be several large iron spoons in which is to be melted the lead that, when thrown into cold water, assumes various shapes, from which the events of coming days may be foretold.

In the dining-room the same decorations as those of the hall and parlor should prevail, while a huge Jack-o'-lantern stands in the center of the table, with a beaming face turned toward each end of the table. On the table, radiating from

The witches, the devil and all of his folk. On Halloween scampers about from six at night till the crowing cock puts the robin rattle to rest.

If you do not believe in ghosts you must not read this; it is only for people who do.

Halloween is the ghosts' holiday, the one night when they have leave to wander through our fancies.

Times have been more humdrum since the shadow people have been banished from our life by the smatterings of science which are just enough to make us unbelievers, and now we have to travel so far away in search of adventure that it loses its charm in the seeking.

Time was, not so very long ago, when respectable citizens could go out any dark night and within three squares of their home see enough "things" to stock the chamber of horrors in a museum. Now we travel around the world with no more change of sensation than you may get for 10 cents on a motor car and ferry-boat trip.

The night of the 31st of October will give a chance to welcome back the ghosts that send the chills creeping over us, but there must be proper incantations performed to give them welcome; for ghosts are ceremonious and do not appear nor even manifest their presence if they are extended only the ordinary "come in" of welcome, which suffices in bidding a mortal to enter.

Here are some of the ways in which they may be brought to appear.

If a young lady will go alone to a dark room, carrying a dim taper, and there eat an apple while she sits before a mirror brushing her hair, and gazing over her left shoulder at short intervals; before the last tangle is unraveled the face of her future spouse will have been seen.

More sure than this, if not too fearsome (and who would be afraid when so much is at stake), is for a maid to go all alone to a well or spring, or if none is convenient then to the nearest pond or river, and bending over the bank to repeat the following lines:

Fairies, in this mystic place  
Show my future true love's face,  
So that when we meet, perchance,  
I shall know him at a glance.

(This to be three times repeated.)

For the success of this charm it is absolutely necessary that the young lady should go unattended and that she may safely do, for the fairies will protect her from all harm until she returns.

Other charms which may be tried without going out alone are more numerous. One of them is to suspend a hoop horizontally by a stout cord from the ceiling. To this are tied short bits of thread, pieces of candies, bread, red pepper and candle ends. Start the hoop whirling around sideways, grasp at the objects with your teeth and the taste of the first bite will give you knowledge of what your future married life will be or what the future has in store for you if already married.

What should properly be made the first entertainment of the evening is "the nut tree." Any kind of a tree will serve, though a real nut tree is better. Nuts of all kinds in good quantity should be loosely fastened on the branches. All of the young ladies present then gather under the tree and it is shaken vigorously to cause the nuts to fall. The girl who catches the most is declared fairy god-mother of the evening. If it is not convenient to arrange the nut tree the nuts may be tossed in the air by hand a dozen at a time and scrambled for.

To tell fortunes by nuts two of them are placed together on a fire shovel and placed over the coals; the name of a boy is given to one and a girl's name is given to the other. As they burn quietly together or pop and jump away from each other so will be the courtship of the two for whom they are named.

Apples are a very important part of Halloween. They should be large and rosy, for the red apple is symbolic of love. Cider made from apples is the proper drink for the evening. It should be sweet and in unlimited quantity, as no harm can result from the drinking if it is fresh made. Apples suspended from strings so as to swing about freely may be bitten at by the young gentlemen present and for each bite of apple which they can secure without using their hand by grabbing with their teeth alone, they are entitled to claim a kiss from any young lady whom they manage to catch while still holding the bit of apple in the mouth. A tub full of water should also be placed in the middle of the floor and the top of

the water well covered with good-sized apples having very short stems. These are to be picked out by the teeth and each person present must secure an apple in this manner before being qualified to take part in the performances of the evening.

In every circle of friends there is always one at least with a home built on the old-fashioned plan as far as big rooms and fireplaces go. In such a house Halloween frolics should be held and the closer the dressing of the guests approaches to that of the old-time "neighbors," who dropped in at the farmhouse of an evening, the more of a success the party will be.

In order to take the "new" off any people who feel themselves under constraint, it is usual to have a candy pull in the early part of the evening to provide sweets for those who care to eat them, but more for the purpose of getting acquainted and establishing a general accord without which even the best laid plans of host and guest must all fall flat.

An old country ceremony for divining future fate of a couple was for them to go together to the cabbage garden, both blindfolded, and pull the first cabbage stalk that came in their way; its being big or little, straight or crooked, was prophetic of the size or form of the future husband or wife of the one pulling it.

Divining by water was another. Let three small dishes be placed before the blindfolded interrogator of fate. In one put pepper-sauce, in another vinegar and in the third eau de Cologne. The blindfolded person then puts out his hand after the plates have been shuffled and dips a finger into one of them. The taste of the finger will indicate what manner of disposition will belong to the life companion whom fate is going to award.

Melons belong especially to this festival evening, both as a contribution to the menu and as a means of interpreting the future. A melon is cut into seven pieces, and a spoonful of seeds is served with each piece. The seeds are then spread upon the plate and taken before the god-mother, who, with her wand, counts them out, repeating the following lines:

"One will be wealthy, two will be healthy  
Three will seek fortune and fame,  
Four will grow stingy, five will look dingy  
Six will secure a good name,  
But seven gives a lover that's true."

This incantation goes on until the final number has been reached, and that settles the fortune of the one to whom the melon belongs.

While palmistry is not really a part of the original Halloween games it has come to take an important place among them and if there are any present who have a sufficient understanding of it to make interesting readings from the palms they will find their time occupied from beginning to end. To make the affair more mysterious and at the same time truly test the power of the reader, a heavy pair of portieres should be so hung that the hand to be read may be passed through between without the palmist seeing the person to whom it belongs. It will be well for him to explain, though, that he is under the influence of one of the spirits of the evening, so that if any of his forecasts are not acceptable the blame shall not lie upon him.

There is one performance of Halloween which is often practiced by the people of the fishing villages on the British coasts. It is to catch a fish at any time after dark on Halloween and cook and eat it the first thing after midnight. This is said to assure every one who tastes of the fish of all sorts of good luck for the entire year following.

It is well to suggest that all guests come attired in sheet and pillow-case costume just as for a sheet and pillow-case party. This much enhances the ghostly effects and starts things in the right direction. A small Japanese paper lantern with sand placed in the bottom around the candle and slung upon a short wand of light wood or bamboo should be given to each person to carry upon arrival. The combination of these lights with the weird sameness of the white costumes will make a scene that will not be soon forgotten and add greatly to the success of the evening, which is usually one that will live in the memory of every participant.

EACH PERSON  
PRESENT MUST  
SECURE AN  
APPLE BY  
"BOBBING"



TELL  
GHOST  
STORIES  
UNTIL YOU  
ARE  
AFRAID  
TO GO  
TO BED

A BRADSHAW

GRASP AT THE  
OBJECTS WITH  
YOUR TEETH

On no account should a Halloween party ever break up before 12 o'clock, for it is at that witching hour of all in the year that queer occurrences are most likely to happen.

Apple roasting is rare fun, both in behalf of the feast that follows and the frolic before the roast. Each apple is turned seven times around on the palm of the hand, while a wish is silently uttered for the friend for whom it is named. If the apple roasts evenly to the core without scorching, and the number of seeds is seven or can be divided by seven, nothing could be more favorable for the future. If the core is lumpy or worm eaten the fairy folk predict disappointment. If an apple bursts its skin and the juice overflows fame and fortune are at hand. If it fails to cook at all or upon one side only there'll be no wedding until after next Halloween. Any conditions not here named may be referred to the fairy god-mother, who, if clever in foretelling, may

the pumpkin, should be ears of corn, apples, oranges and nuts.

The favors are Jack-o'-lanterns painted on water color paper, and then cut out. A different expression is given to each face and the name written across the bottom.

At each plate is a bright red apple, in which stands a small lighted candle, held in place by the tiny fastenings used when placing candles on a cake. Chicken salad is served in scooped out apples, each one standing on a little paper doily. With the salad are the triangular-shaped sandwiches, olives and cider.

After this come lemon jolly, having in it slices of oranges and grapes, and covered with whipped cream. With the jolly is passed the luck cake, a large foot pound cake, having a row of gilded wishbones, one for each guest, standing around the edge. In the cake have been placed, before baking, a ring, a thumb and a piece of silver, signifying to lucky finders of each a wedding, a single life or great riches.

When the plates have been removed nuts, raisins and motto papers are passed, and the guests sit telling stories and breaking wishbones until the candles are well burned down and it is time to make the last wish, when, holding the tiny flame at arms length, each one tries to extinguish his or hers at one blow, that the dream may become a reality.