

# PUMPKIN CAROLS

page 1

## **Let's Go Trick-or-Treating**

*Tune: Here We Come a-Wassailing*

Let's go trick-or-treating  
Along the streets of town!  
(But watch out for the werewolves  
That hunt when sun is down.)

Fear and fun come to you, and to you good candy too  
And we wish you a frightening and happy Halloween  
And we wish you a happy Halloween.

We are not normal carolers who sing on Christmas Eve,  
But we are friendly neighbors with songs you won't believe,

Give us Mounds, Snickers too, or we'll sing them all to you,  
And we wish you a frightening and happy Halloween,  
And we wish you a happy Halloween.

## **Away in a Pumpkin Patch**

*Tune: Away in a Manger*

*Words by: McKanan Family*

Away in a pumpkin patch, Linus is there,  
He's wrapped in his blanket, but Linus, beware!  
The ghosts that fly overhead high in the sky  
Will steal your warm blanket and leave you to cry.

But now the Great pumpkin will rise like the sun  
And bring forth warm blankets for ev-er-y-one.  
The ghosts will all dance and they'll clap and they'll cheer,,  
For Linus our hero who's without a peer.

## **Pumpkin Wonderland**

*Tune: Winter Wonderland*

Screech owls hoot. are you listen'in?  
Beneath the moon; all is glist'nin--  
A real scary sight; we're happy tonight.  
Waitin' in a pumpkin wonderland!

In the streets, we're begging for some candy;  
We've been waiting for this night all year.  
For we've tried to give the creeps to everybody,  
And to make a costume filling you with fear!

Later on, while we're eating  
What we got trick-or-treating;  
We'll share all our sacks of Halloween snacks;  
Waiting in a pumpkin wonderland!

# PUMPKIN CAROLS

page 2

## **Deck the Patch**

*Tune: Deck the Halls*

Deck the patch with orange and black. Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Take along your goody sack. Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Don we now our gay apparel. Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Troll the ancient pumpkin carol. Fa la la la la, la la la la

See the great one rise before us. Fa la la la la, la la la la  
As we sing the Pumpkin chorus. Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Follow him as he ascends. Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Join with true Great Pumpkin friends. Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Deck the halls with boughs of fungus. Fa la la la la, la la la la  
'Tis the time for fear among us, Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Don we now our strange apparel, Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Troll the ancient Halloween carol. Fa la la la la, la la la la

See the goblins rise before us, Fa la la la la, la la la la  
As we sing the Halloween chorus, Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Follow them as they ascend, Fa la la la la, la la la la  
Join with all your loony friends. Fa la la la la, la la la la

## **Sad Pumpkin**

*Tune: Blue Christmas*

*Words by: Dan McKanan*

I see a sad pumpkin next door,  
With a sad mouth that droops to the floor.  
Other lanterns are bright,  
And they'll give you a fright,  
But this is a sad, sad pumpkin.

## **Oh Little Backyard Pumpkin Patch**

*Tune: O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Oh little backyard pumpkin patch,  
How still we see thee lie.  
It's Halloween and we have seen  
the Great Pu-u-mpkin go by.

While in the dark streets runneth  
Some trick-or-treating youth,  
With bulging sacks  
Of treats and snacks  
From Twix to Baby Ruth.

## **Ghosties We Have Heard on High**

*Tune: Angels We Have Heard on High*

Ghosties we have heard on high,  
Groaning horribly o'er the plains.  
And the witches in reply,  
Cackling their eerie strains:

Booooooooooooooooooooooooooooo  
On this Halloween Night we cry:  
Booooooooooooooooooooooooooooo  
On this Halloween Night we cry.

Spirits, why this jubilee?  
Why your ghastly tunes prolong?  
What these gruesome tidings be,  
Which inspire your evil song?

Booooooooooooooooooooooooooooo  
On this Halloween Night we cry:  
Booooooooooooooooooooooooooooo  
On this Halloween Night we cry.

# PUMPKIN CAROLS

page 3

## **Great Pumpkin, Great Pumpkin / Pumpkin Shells**

*Tune: Jingle Bells*

*Words ("pumpkin shells" chorus) by: McKanan Family & Friends*

Great Pumpkin, Great Pumpkin,  
Where the heck are you?  
I've been in my pumpkin patch  
About the whole night through.

Great Pumpkin, Great Pumpkin,  
When you gonna show?  
Come on, Pumpkin, hurry up,  
Please don't be a schmo.

Dashing through the streets, meeting goblins as we go,  
Wearing contour sheets, wishing it would snow.  
Bells in doorways ring, filling you with fright,  
What fun it is to come and sing, and get some food tonight!

Trick or treat! Trick or treat!  
Trick or treat, we say!  
Give us Snickers, Butterfingers,  
Twix, or Milky Way!

Trick or treat! Trick or treat!  
Trick or treat, we say!  
If you don't have treats for us,  
We'll never go away!

Dashing through the streets, in our costumes bright and gay,  
To each house we go, laughing all the way.  
Halloween is here, making spirits bright.  
What fun it is to trick-or-treat, and sing pumpkin carols tonight!

Pumpkin shells, pumpkin shells,  
Filled with pulp and seeds.  
In our pumpkin patch we see  
Some orange amid the weeds.

Pumpkin shells, pumpkin shells,  
Carve a scary face.  
Then we'll make a pumpkin pie  
With cinnamon and mace.

## **Spooky Night**

*Tune: Silent Night*

Spooky night, Halloween night,  
All is cold, nothing's right.  
Round yon pumpkin's glowing display,  
Singing songs to scare you away.  
Sing in devilish glee-ee.  
Singing in devilish glee.

# PUMPKIN CAROLS

page 4

## **God Rest Ye Merry Spirits**

*Tune: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

*Words (second verse) by: BDan Fairchild*

God rest ye merry spirits, let nothing you dismay.  
Witches stirring bubbling cauldrons, smelling of decay.  
To give you all to Satan's po'er, before the break of day.

Oh tidings of horror and fright,  
Horror and fright!  
Oh tidings of horror and fright.

God rest ye merry skeletons, let nothing you affright.  
The spirits and the de-emons are coming out tonight!  
To frolic in the witching hour, before the morning's light.

Oh omens of e-evil and blood,  
Evil and blood!  
Oh o-omens of e-evil and blood.

## **Good Count Dracula**

*Tune: Good King Wenceslas*

*Words by: Dan McKanan*

Good Count Dracula looked out, on All Hallows' Even',  
He saw blood pulse in the throat of a kid named Steven  
"My, he'd make a tasty dish, he just makes me drool.  
I think I'll fulfill my wish when he's done with school."

Steven's lunch at school that day was a hummus platter,  
And pasta with pesto sauce, just to make him fatter;  
When the school bell rang out loud, Steve was left alone:  
His breath drove away the crowd—then he heard a moan.

"Is that Dracula I hear? He will be my death!"  
The vampire was coming near, 'til he smelled Steve's breath.  
"Steve will live another night," said Vlad the Impaler,  
"With garlic I cannot fight. I am such a failure."

## **I Heard the Bells on Halloween**

*Tune: I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

I heard the bells on Halloween,  
Their old, familiar carols scream,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat:  
The Pumpkin season' here again!

Then pealed the bells more loud and strong  
Great Pumpkin comes before too long!  
The good will get, the bad will fret  
The pumpkin season's here again!

## **Trick or Treat / Shivery Yells**

*Tune: Silver Bells*

*Words (first chorus) by: Oriana McKanan*

Trick or treat, things to eat,  
It's Halloween in the city.  
Shrieks and groans, yells and moans,  
Soon it will be twelve o'clock.

We're on sidewalks, we're on porches, dressed in costumes to scare;  
Through the city we're ringing the doorbells.  
Trick or treating, candy eating, gooey stuff in our hair,  
But the most fun is shrieking out loud:

Shivery yells, shivery yells,  
It's Halloween—time for screaming!  
Moan and groan, leave us alone,  
Halloween's just once a year.

## **Humphrey the Teal-Nosed Pumpkin**

*Tune: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*

Humphrey the teal-nosed pumpkin had a very obvious nose.  
And if you ever saw it, you might even say it shows.

All of the other pumpkins used to laugh and call him names.  
They never let poor Humphrey play in any pumpkin games.

Then one foggy Halloween Eve, the Great Pumpkin did say,  
"Humphrey, with your nose so teal, you'll make all the kiddies squeal!"

Then all the pumpkins loved him, and they shouted out with glee,  
"Humphrey, the teal-nosed pumpkin, you'll go down in history!"

## **Great Pumpkin is Coming to Town**

*Tune: Santa Claus is Coming to Town*

Oh, you better not shriek, you better not groan,  
You better not howl, you better not moan,  
Great Pumpkin is coming to town!

He's going to find out from folks that he meets,  
Who deserves tricks and who deserves treats;  
Great Pumpkin is coming to town!

He'll search in every pumpkin patch, haunted houses far and near;  
To see if you've been spreading gloom, or bringing lots of cheer!

So you better not shriek, you better not groan,  
You better not howl, you better not moan;  
Great Pumpkin is coming to town!

## **Up in the Pumpkin Patch**

*Tune: Up On the Roof Top*

Up in the pumpkin patch witches pause  
Out jumps the Great One, hear the applause  
Down through the rows with goodies and toys  
All for the followers' Halloween joys.

Haunt, haunt, haunt! Who wouldn't want  
Haunt, haunt, haunt! Who wouldn't want  
To be in the Pumpkin Patch, cheer, cheer, cheer  
Waiting for the Great One to appear.

## **The Halloween Song**

*Tune: Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire*

Witches cackling 'round an open fire,  
Plague rats nibbling at your toes.  
Banshee cries echo all through the mire  
And folks dressed up in scary clothes.

Everybody knows  
A pumpkin and some garlic cloves  
Help to ward away the fright.  
Tiny imps, with their eyes all aglow  
Will make it hard to sleep tonight.

They know there's undead on the way.  
They multiply their number every time they slay.  
and every mortal child is going to spy  
To see if vampires really know how to fly.

And so we're offering this fearful phrase  
to kids from one to ninety-two.  
Although they've been killed many times, many ways,  
They're still looking for you.

## **I'm Dreaming of the Great Pumpkin**

*Tune: I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas*

I'm dreaming of the Great Pumpkin  
Just like I do this time each year.  
When he brings nice toys  
To good girls and boys  
Who wait for him to appear.  
  
I'm dreaming of the Great Pumpkin  
With every pumpkin card I write.  
May your jack-o-lanterns burn bright  
When the Great Pumpkin visits you tonight!

## **We Three Ghosts**

*Tune: We Three Kings*

We three ghosts of Halloween are  
Scaring kids who wander too far.  
Trick or treating, candy eating,  
Watching the Halloween Star.

Oh, oh,  
Star of darkness, star of fright.  
Star of every gruesome sight.  
West winds howling, cat's a-yowling.  
Let us play some tricks tonight!

# PUMPKIN CAROLS

page 7

## **O Skeletons!**

*Tune: O Tannenbaum*

O skeletons! O skeletons!  
Rattle in my attic.  
O skeletons! O skeletons!  
Rattle in my attic.  
Let them know, the day is here,  
When your spirit will appear.  
O skeletons! O skeletons!  
Rattle through the graveyard.

All Hallow's Eve! All Hallow's Eve,  
Night of ghosts and goblins.  
All Hallow's Eve, All Hallow's Eve,  
Night of ghosts and goblins.  
From door to door, we trick or treat  
And then our candy we will eat.  
All Hallow's Eve, All Hallow's Eve,  
How spooky are our costumes.

Pumpkin cards! Oh, pumpkin cards!  
Carry greetings to my friends.  
Let them know the day is here  
When Great Pumpkin will appear.  
Pumpkin cards, oh pumpkin cards!  
Carry greetings to my friends.

## **The First Halloween**

*Tune: The First Noel*

The first Halloween  
The spirits did scream  
At the children in costumes  
Who stole all the treats.  
"Go away, go away!" The spirits did say.  
"You're taking our business,  
So come back in May!"

## **I Saw Three Ghosts**

*Tune: I Saw Three Ships*

I saw three ghosts go sailing by  
On Halloween, on Halloween.  
I saw three ghosts go sailing by  
On Halloween in the evening.  
And they were holding skulls, all three...  
Three headless skeletons gave chase...  
So let us all play trick-or-treat...

## **Joy to the World**

*Tune: Joy to the World*

Joy to the world; it's Halloween.  
The night of fright has come!  
This time of year we wait.  
We hope he won't be late.  
The Great Pumpkin will come,  
The Great Pumpkin will come,  
The Great, the Great Pumpkin will come!

He rules the world, on Hallow's Eve.  
He's coming here tonight.  
Let's go into the pumpkin patch  
They'll put us in the booby hatch,  
But we will have such fun,  
But we will have such fun,  
But we, but we will have such fun!

## **It Came Upon a Midnight Drear**

*Tune: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*  
*Words by: McKanan Family & Friends*

It came upon a midnight drear,  
The gruesomest story told  
Of zombies staggering through the street  
Bedeck't with fungus and mold.  
"Fear Us! Your brains we want to eat,"  
The zombies shrieked with glee.  
"We'll suck them through your nostrils now,  
There is no time to flee!"

## **O Come, All Ye Monsters**

*Tune: O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye monsters,  
Spirits, ghosts, and goblins,  
Come to the pumpkin patch  
On Ha-a-lloween.  
Come and await him,  
On this night of spookiness.  
O wait for the Great Pumpkin,  
O wait for the Great Pumpkin,  
O wait for the Great Pumpkin,  
Tri-ick or Treat!

## **Turning the Year**

*Tune: Gather Us In*

*Words by: Angela Kessler*

Here in this place, twilight is gleaming.  
Now is the daylight fading away.  
Blurring the line 'twixt being and seeming,  
Painting the world in shades of grey.

Turning the year from summer to winter.  
Turning the leaves through green, gold, and brown.  
Turning my gaze from outward to inward.  
Thoughts like the leaves that come tumbling down.

Maple and oak must sleep for a season.  
Hosta and fern are fading from view.  
Frost flowers bloom, with crystalline petals.  
Green leaves cling staunchly to holly and yew.

Piles of orange, voluptuous pumpkins.  
Bins of potatoes, cellars of beets.  
In harvest we reap good things in abundance;  
Steward them well so the cycle repeats.

The dancers arrive in ribbons so somber,  
Festively dressed in grey and in black.  
The beat of a drum propels them to motion,  
Round and round and forward and back.

Where is Saint George, and where is the doctor?  
Where is the horse, who's naught but a head?  
Clear us some room, and we shall assemble,  
Here with our forebearers, living and dead.

## **Great Pumpkin's Ninth**

*Tune: Beethoven's Ninth*

Great Pumpkin, Great Pumpkin,  
Coming right down from the sky.  
From you we expected great things—  
All we got was pumpkin pie.

Here are people greatly worried:  
There are many things we need.  
From you we expected great things—  
All you've done is gone to seed.

## **I'm a Little Pumpkin**

*Tune: I'm a Little Teapot*

I'm a little pumpkin, orange and round.  
I grew on a vine, right down on the ground.  
When I get all carved up, then I shout,  
"Boo! I'm scary, so you better watch out!"

## **The Coming of the Gourd**

*Tune: Battle Hymn of the Republic*

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the  
coming of the Gourd.  
He has trampled out the vineyards where  
the hordes of gourds are stored.  
He is definitely coming now,  
no one can call Him fraud.  
His seeds go marching on.

Glory, glory, Great Pumpkin!  
Glory, glory, Great Pumpkin!  
Glory, glory, Great Pumpkin!  
His seeds go marching on.

# PUMPKIN CAROLS

page 9

## **Halloween the Ghoul-i-ful**

*Tune: America the Beautiful*

*Words by: McKanan Family & Friends*

Oh ghoul-i-ful for whitened bones,  
For sticky pools of blood,  
For maggots and for millipedes  
That crawl in mildewed mud.

On Halloween, on Halloween,  
The ghouls come out to play,  
We'll stay in bed  
And hide our head,  
Until Thanksgiving Day.

## **In the Graveyard**

*Tune: Darling Clementine*

In the graveyard, in the graveyard  
When the moon begins to shine.  
There's a doctor, crazy doctor  
And his monster, Frankenstein.

Oh, my monster, oh my monster  
Oh my monster, Frankenstein.  
You are looking very scary,  
Scary monster, Frankenstein.

## **Mr. Pumpkin**

*Tune: Frere Jacques*

Mister Pumpkin (2x)  
Eyes so round (2x)  
Halloween is coming (2x)  
To our town. (2x)

## **Counting Ghoulies**

*Tune: Ten Little Indians*

One little, two little, three little ghosts,  
Four little five little, six little ghosts,  
Seven little, eight little, nine little ghosts,  
Ten little very scary ghosts.

One little, two little, three little witches  
Flying over haystacks, flying over ditches.  
Slide down a moonbeam without any  
hitches,  
Hi ho! Halloween's here!

## **Ghost of Tom (round)**

*Traditional*

Have you seen the ghost of Tom?  
Long white bones with the skin all gone.  
Ooh-oo-oo-oo!  
Wouldn't it be chilly with no skin on?

## **The Green Man**

*Words and Tune by: John Thompson*

The Green Man's a traveller,  
reveller, unraveller  
Of dreams and of fancies,  
from first to the last.  
Older than all men, living in all things.  
Son, father, and sage,  
Long live the Green Man!

First light of first morning saw the Green  
Man there waiting.

He saw the creation and joined in the  
dance.

All creatures grew 'round him, he grew with  
them singing.

The first song of all, sing of the Green Man.

Quietly watching and waiting and learning.  
The storms are his fury, the lightning his  
laugh.

The first leaf of spring, his beauty and glory.  
His stillness his power, in the trees is his  
path.

There are fewer trees now, but the man is  
not sleeping.

'Though our ruin brings sorrow to time's  
oldest heart.

In our souls we may find him and remember  
his wisdom,

And rekindle the flame; once again make a  
start.

# PUMPKIN CAROLS

page 10

## THE GREEN MAN

Words by: William Anderson

Arr: Lynn Noel

Like antlers, like veins of the brain the  
birches  
Mark patterns of mind on the red winter sky;

I am thought of all plants,  
says the Green Man.  
I am thought of all plants, says he.

The hungry birds harry the last berries of  
rowan  
But white is her bark in the darkness of rain.

I rise with the sap. . .

The ashes are clashing their boughs like  
sword-dancers,  
Their black buds do trace a wild face in the  
clouds.

I come with the wind. . .

The alders are rattling as though ready for  
battle,  
Guarding the grove where she waits for her  
lover.

I burn with desire. . .

In and out of the yellowing wands of the  
willow,  
The pollen-bright bees are plundering the  
catkins.

I am honey of love. . .

The hedges of quick are thick with May  
blossom,  
As the dancers advance on the leaf-covered  
King.

It's off with my head. . .

Green Man becomes grown man in flames  
of the oak,  
As its crown forms his mask and its leafage  
his features.

I speak through the oak....

The holly is flowering as hayfields are  
rolling.  
Their gleaming long grasses like waves of  
the sea.

I shine with the sun....

The hazels are rocking the cups of their  
nuts,  
As the harvesters shout when the last sheaf  
is cut.

I swim with the salmon...

The globes of the grapes are robing with  
bloom,  
Like the hazes of autumn, like the Milky  
Way's stardust.

I am crushed for your drink....

The aspen drops silver of leaves on earth's  
salver,  
And the poplars shed gold on the young ivy  
heads.

I have paid for your pleasure....

The reed beds are flanking in silence the  
islands,  
Where meditates Wisdom as she waits and  
waits.

I have kept her secret....

The bark of the elder makes whistles for  
children,  
To call to the deer as they rove over the  
snow.

I am born in the dark...