

## 35. Happy Halloween

**Topic:** Opening communication between generations on a favorite holiday

**Cast:**

LADY: sweet, kind, chatty old lady

SAM: impatient, insensitive

BRIAN: a little more sympathetic and willing to placate the old lady

- 1       *(Scene opens as LADY is opening door to BRIAN and SAM.)*  
 2   **BRIAN and SAM:** Trick or treat.  
 3   **LADY:** *(Enthusiastically)* Oh, look at the cute little kids.  
 4       Father, come look. We have two scary trick-or-treaters.  
 5   **SAM:** *(To BRIAN)* Good grief. This is getting old.  
 6   **BRIAN:** Come on, Sam, deal with it. These old people give  
 7       out the best candy.  
 8   **LADY:** *(To BRIAN)* And what are *you* supposed to be, young  
 9       man?  
 10 **BRIAN:** *(Accommodatingly)* I'm a hobo.  
 11 **LADY:** Ooooh, a hobo, how sweet. *(To SAM)* And you?  
 12 **SAM:** *(Sarcastically, not particularly friendly)* Hello? I'm a  
 13       mummy. Bandages, get it?  
 14 **LADY:** I see, yes, I see. Father, are you coming? I want you  
 15       to see these scary children. Now, do you two live in the  
 16       neighborhood?  
 17 **BRIAN:** Yeah, down on Maypole Court.  
 18 **LADY:** Oh yes, Maypole Court. I used to play bridge with  
 19       Mariann Clement who lived on Maypole. Do you know  
 20       her?  
 21 **SAM:** *(Impatiently)* No. We gotta go.  
 22 **BRIAN:** *(Quietly to SAM)* Man, get a grip. *(To LADY)* We just  
 23       moved in a few months ago and we don't know many  
 24       people on the street. Only people with kids.

- 1   **LADY:** Well, I'll bet Mariann's grandchildren come to visit  
 2       some times. I'll bet you'll meet them eventually. I'm sure  
 3       she'd be happy to know you. Why don't you stop by and  
 4       introduce yourself?  
 5   **SAM:** *(Sarcastically)* Gee, Brian, I think I heard Mommy  
 6       calling. We'd better take off. Bye now.  
 7   **BRIAN:** To be honest, ma'am, the older people on the street  
 8       are kind of mean to us. They don't let us play basketball  
 9       in the street and yell if we ride our skateboards after six  
 10       because they say the noise keeps them up.  
 11 **LADY:** Oh, dear, I see. Yes, it is hard for some older people  
 12       to remember what it was like when they were  
 13       youngsters. I remember when I was your age ...  
 14 **SAM:** *(Rolling eyes)* Good grief.  
 15 **LADY:** There was a mean old lady at the bottom of our  
 16       street named Mrs. Bond, but we just called her the cat  
 17       lady because she seemed to have about one hundred  
 18       cats. If we so much as walked on her lawn she'd come  
 19       after us with a broom. One time she called the police  
 20       because we were sitting across the street on the steps  
 21       of the dime store talking. *(Sigh)* It's very hard to get old,  
 22       you know.  
 23 **BRIAN:** Do you ... do you have children?  
 24 **LADY:** Oh, yes, we have sixteen living children.  
 25 **SAM:** *(Shocked)* Sixteen?  
 26 **BRIAN:** *(Confused)* Living?  
 27 **LADY:** Yes, we lost a daughter when she was just a baby.  
 28       Such a tragedy. But the good Lord has given us many  
 29       blessings and forty-seven grandchildren. Wait, I think it's  
 30       forty-eight. Yes, forty-eight. Time does catch up with us.  
 31 **SAM:** Wow. Do they all fit into your house at one time?  
 32 **LADY:** *(Laughs.)* We have had them all here, but mostly we  
 33       go to my son's house in Bentley. He's a doctor and lives  
 34       in quite a big house. But, well, I'm sure you want to get  
 35       on with your trick-or-treating and don't want to waste

- 1 time with an old lady like me.  
2 SAM: *(Kindly)* It's OK. It's kind of cool hearing about that  
3 stuff.  
4 LADY: Well, aren't you sweet? Here's your treats. In fact, I  
5 think I'll give you these extra large treats we keep for the  
6 grandchildren. You have been so sweet. I don't know  
7 what happened to Father. I wanted him to meet you.  
8 Well, please tell Mariann Clement I said hello.  
9 BRIAN: Will do. We'll try to look her up. Have a good night.  
10 And thanks!  
11 LADY: Thanks to you, too, boys. Happy Halloween!

## 36. Trick or Treat

**Topic:** Two friends discuss differing views on Halloween costumes.

**Cast:**

MOLLY: a girly-girl

JENNY: a tomboy

- 1 *(Scene begins with both GIRLS sitting on sofa or bed looking*  
2 *through magazines.)*  
3 MOLLY: So, Jenny, what are you going to be for Halloween?  
4 JENNY: I haven't decided yet. My grandmother was  
5 supposed to be making me this really terrific vampire  
6 costume, but she got sick and so now I don't have  
7 anything to wear.  
8 MOLLY: *(Helpfully)* I could lend you one of my old costumes.  
9 JENNY: *(Hesitantly)* Uh, thanks, but no.  
10 MOLLY: Why?  
11 JENNY: I don't know how to tell you this, but ... well, Molly,  
12 your costumes are pretty lame sometimes.  
13 MOLLY: *(Defensively)* Lame? What are you talking about? I  
14 always have the best costumes in class. I've won three  
15 mall costume contests. How many have you won?  
16 JENNY: Little Bo Peep? Belle from *Beauty and the Beast*?  
17 Sure, they were pretty but, well, I'm twelve, Molly. I'm  
18 not gonna be a fairy tale character for Halloween. So,  
19 anyway, what are you gonna be?  
20 MOLLY: *(Harrumphing)* I'm not telling you now. I'm mad at  
21 you. Besides, you'll make fun of me.  
22 JENNY: *(Sincerely)* I'm sorry. I won't. You always look really  
23 ... pretty.  
24 MOLLY: Sure, you're just saying that.  
25 JENNY: No I'm not. I'm serious. Tell me what you're gonna be.  
26 MOLLY: Well, I'm going to be a pirate.