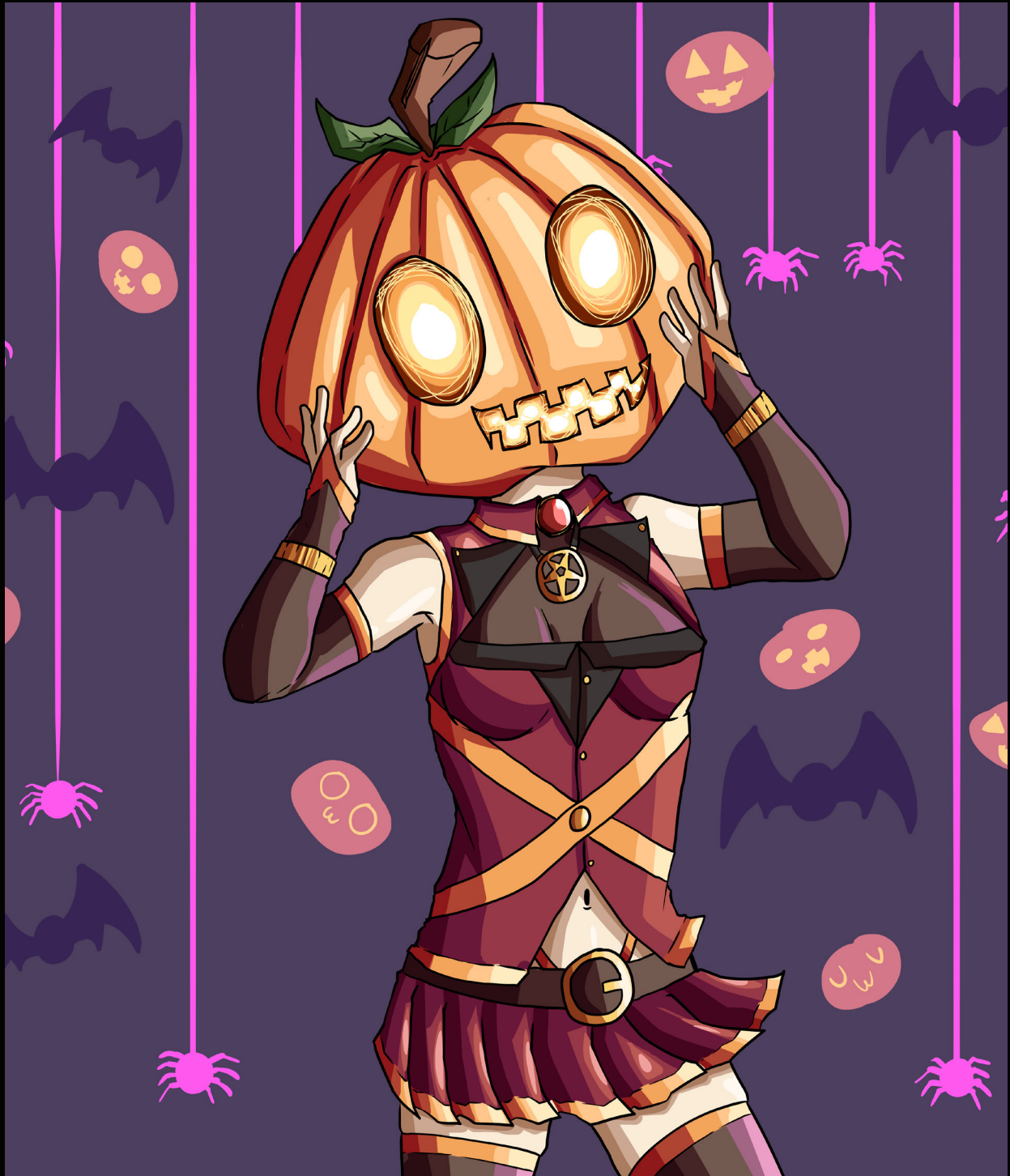


HALLOWEEN 2020 ISSUE

FRIGHTLEAF





*“Werewolves howl.
Phantoms prowl.
Halloween is upon us now.”*

Welcome, dear readers, to the first-ever Halloween issue of the *Figleaf*! Within these pages, you will find a haunted host of frights and delights. Enjoy... if you dare!
(Mwa ha ha!)

The Figleaf team

HALLOWEEN SUPER SLEUTH CHALLENGE!

See if you can spot the following hidden pictures throughout this issue: a cobweb; a skull; two pumpkins; and a bat. Happy hunting!

Meet the team

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Deputy Editor: Zeynep Erdogan

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Features Editor: Amelia Yoshida

Extraordinary writers: Isabelle Baker; Natasha Dixon-Dowd; Elsa Pulvirenti; Nina Schafer; Sienna Serrao; Amber Szucs

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Video experts: Nathan Gazzana; Ronin Serrao

A *step-by-step,* **COVID-safe** *Halloween* *party guide for* *introverts*

*Do you struggle with obtaining friendship because of your innately introverted nature, but do you wish to do so? Well, I have some news for you: COVID-safe Halloween parties are the perfect time for the socially inept to snag some companions! No real contact or eye-to-eye talking is needed! And, you'll have no risk of contracting ANY disease! In these seven easy steps, you'll become a professional in organising Zoom Halloween parties to attract friendship!**

By Elsa Pulvirenti

(Sponsored by Zoom and COVID-19)

1

Announce to all the people you desire to be your friends that you are planning a COVID-safe Halloween party for the 31st of October.

Ensure you have a Zoom account. Ensure your FRIENDS have a Zoom account. (Did you know we are sponsored by Zoom?).

2

Now, once you have collected a list of attendees, you must choose how you shall decorate your room for the Halloween Zoom party. Decorations such as cut-outs, spiders and/or blood spatter on your walls are welcome, however, a screaming companion is strongly discouraged (your to-be friends may get the wrong idea).



3



4

Food is another important part of any Halloween party except you will be the only one eating it! Small cakes in the shape of fingers are advised, but real ones are NOT. The same goes for any other organ of the body. Your to-be friends may feel left out watching you eat, but if you narrate the tastes, there will be no issue.

Now for your costume. Of course, you can be anything, the sky's your limit (yadda, yadda, yaaa), but I highly recommend something subtle. Your to-be friends are expected to show up to the Zoom party in their own costumes, so you will have to deal with their jealousy. This is something fame naturally attracts.

5

6

What you will be doing during this Zoom party (aside from eating finger cakes and deflecting your to-be friends' jealousy) is an important thing to consider. You could screen some movies, showing your phone screen to your computer camera every once in a while. You could tell some jokes, preferably relatable ones, such as "Why are skeletons so lonely? Because they have nobody to love". It's a cracker. OR you could quietly sit and watch them in their confusion at your wide eyes and heavy breathing.

7

Wait until October 31st and hope everyone joins (if anyone at all!).

*And there you go! An introvert's guide to Halloween on our COVID-19 ridden Earth; seven simple, easy-to-remember steps to finding friendship.
Happy Halloween-ing.*



*Nothing in this article is to be used as fact.

Strange sightings

Maxwell Patrick, Jasper Pringle, Lily Sarzentic and Wil Stevens braved skeletons, eyeballs and some spectacularly strange classroom decorations to photograph the weirdest and wackiest parts of Hunters Hill High! See if you can guess where to find these curiosities at HHHS...



ings at HHHHS!





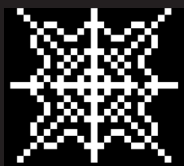


*Follow the Figleaf on Instagram
@hhhsfigleaf*

Submissions wanted!

Do you have an amazing news article, story, poem, artwork, comic, and/or photograph that you'd like to have printed in the *Figleaf*?

Send any submissions to
Miss Lake at
Rebecca.Lake5@det.nsw.edu.au
OR drop them into the *Figleaf*
submissions box outside the
English Staffroom.



(Submissions can be anonymous.)

A haunted history of Halloween



Lily Sarzentich delves into the ancient origins of Halloween.

Halloween is a famous holiday celebrated each year on October 31st. A lot of people know the most common ways this holiday is celebrated, with parties, family gatherings, wearing costumes, and most importantly... TRICK-OR-TREATING!!! But not many people really know the history behind Halloween.

Halloween started around 2000 years ago. It originated with the ancient Celtic festival, Samhain. During Samhain, people participating in the festival would dress up in costumes and light huge bonfires which was meant to ward off ghosts.

In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III decided to designate the date of the 1st of November to the “All Saints Day”, which the holiday incorporated some of the celebrations of Samhain. The night before this day was known as “All Hallows Eve” which was eventually changed to “Halloween”.



Halloween

Terrifying tacos



*Do your friends say you're the life of the party?
Do they praise you for your great cooking skills?
Do you have any redeeming qualities about your
personality? If you said "no" to all of these, then I have
the recipe for you! With these terrifying tacos, you can
finally become the life of the party! Be praised for your
cooking skills all while putting little-to-zero effort into
these bad boys! Oh, look! People finally like you!*

n recipes



By Elsa Pulvirenti and Amelia Yoshida



Total time: 20 minutes

Ingredients:

- Hard Taco Shell
- Sour cream
- Olives
- An assortment of taco toppings

RECIPE:

1. Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C for fan assisted ovens) and place taco shells in the oven open end down on a baking sheet.
2. Heat for 2-3 minutes.
3. Slice olives into 1cm pieces and place aside for later.
4. Prepare your taco toppings and evenly distribute them in each taco shell. Dollop two medium-sized circles of sour cream on top of each taco and place one olive on each dollop.
5. Enjoy!

Halloween



Blood-curdling cannoli

When you said you would bring vampires to the Halloween party, they didn't expect these tiny treats. Luckily, they aren't any of the Cullens; instead it's some delightfully spooky chocolate cannoli!

n recipes

By Elsa Pulvirenti and Amelia Yoshida

Total time: 5 hours (1 for cooking + decor, 4 for cooling)

Ingredients:


- Store-bought cannoli shells
- 1L milk
- 250g dark chocolate
- 1 1/4 cups granulated sugar
- 6 eggs
- 1/2 cup cocoa powder
- 3/4 cup plain flour OR 1/2 cup cornstarch

Decoration:

- Marshmallow
- Black + red icing
- Milk chocolate

RECIPE:

1. Begin by warming 1L of milk with 250g of dark chocolate in a saucepan over a low heat
2. Beat 6 eggs with 1 1/4 cups of sugar, until pale and fluffy. Add 3/4 cups of flour or 1/2 a cup of cornstarch and 1/2 cocoa powder then, mix until homogeneous. Then, pour in a little bit of the warmed milk and gently combine. Pour this mixture back into the saucepan with the rest of the milk over medium heat. *Recipe continues on the next page.*

- 
3. Keep whisking until the custard thickens, keeping up the vigorous pace for another 5–10 minutes as the flour cooks out and the custard's thickness has increased. Pour the custard into a bowl, making sure to cover it the surface of it with cling wrap or baking paper to stop it from forming a skin. Let it sit out for 10 minutes before transferring to the fridge for four hours. (If you happen to be impatient, set the custard bowl into a large bowl of ice water and whisk. This will help bring its temperature down quicker.)
 4. Once the custard is completely cooled, ready your cannoli to be filled. Either pipe or spoon the custard into the shells (the custard may need to be beaten to smooth it out after being in the fridge).
 5. Melt the milk chocolate in the microwave and, over some baking paper, shape into the shape of bat wings and ears.
 6. Cool in the fridge and then glue to the half the cannolis with chocolate.
 7. Using the red and black icing, decorate the marshmallows with the faces of vampires and bats. Place marshmallow heads onto the tops of the cannolis.
 8. Eat.

*Store-bought cannoli tastes
just as good as homemade
(we promise!)*



Creature of the dark

*Skull of a boar
Nothing but a score
Tail of a pig
Yet there was no mistaking
It was big*

*Nothing could have prepared
That night I was scared
Fear being the only feeling I felt
Wishing to get up and belt*

*Never will I say
What I saw that day
That creature of the dark
That appeared on a spark
Oh, those horrifying features
Never should I see those creatures
Ever again*

By Lily Sarzentich

A row of bowling pins in a bowling alley, with a ball in the foreground. The pins are white with red and orange stripes. The ball is white with a blue star and the text "LASSIC APPROVED".

Choose your own *adventure*

By Isabelle Baker and Amber Szucs

You and your friends are on a road trip around Germany. By high recommendation of a few locals, you and your friends plan a stop at Gruslig, an abandoned town built in the 1930s. You decide to hire a car, and make your way there early, to set up a scary prank in true Halloween spirit. When you arrive, you decide to check out the Bowling Alley first. As you walk in, you get a text from your friends—cancelling the trip to Gruslig. Frustrated, you decide to check out the area but suddenly, a gust of wind slams the door tight shut.

Now you're stuck in the bowling alley.

In the Alley, you look around as you gather yourself. You find that the alley is dusty and quite dark. There's a tiny kitchen behind the front counter, a bathroom and the alley itself. You check the bathroom first and realise it's locked. You turn around to make your way into the centre of the room. What do you do now?

Look at the:

- **Alley (Refer to 1)**
- **Kitchen (Refer to 2)**

1. Alley

You decide to try at hitting the scattered pins at the end of the alley. You line up a shot with the heavy, old bowling ball, and end up missing the pins by a mile. You brush it off and walk to the kitchen. (Refer to 2)

2. Kitchen

Behind the counter, there is a small, single icebox (the old version of fridges) in what used to be a busy kitchen. The icebox is open, and the dirty shelves are completely empty.

- **Look in icebox (Refer to 3)**
- **Go to Alley (Refer to 4)**

3. Icebox

Why would you check in the icebox? You could see that it was empty. It paid off, however, because you can see that the backing of the icebox is loose and when you look up, there is an open hole in the top casing. What should you do next?

- **Probe backing (Refer to 5)**
- **Probe hole in top (Refer to 6)**

4. Alley

You decide to head back to the alley, grabbing one of the cracked bowling balls from sheer boredom. You throw the ball down the long lane and manage to hit a few pins. Suddenly, you hear a loud bang and the backing has fallen apart. The bang gave you a huge fright. You run over and find a secret passage. Without hesitation, you climb through which leads to a small underground tunnel. You find a thick gate on the other side.

- **Force the gate open (Refer to 7)**
- **Go back to the Alley (Refer to 8)**

5. Probe backing of icebox

You reach towards the backing of the icebox, and punch at it. The backing wobbles, and from the hole at the top, a key falls out. You grab the key and go to the locked door in the building- the bathroom. (Refer to 10)

6. Probe hole in the top

You reach your hand towards the place and maneuver your fingers around it. It isn't long before your fingers brush something cold and hairy but before you can grasp it, there's a sharp pain on your fingers and venom in your bloodstream. You recoil backwards, and nurse your fingers as the poisonous spider crawls out of the

place. You collapse, and never wake again. (**Start over**)

7. Force it open

You grab the bars of the brown, rusty gate and use all your strength to open it. However, you shake the gate too hard. This causes rocks to plummet down, killing you. (**Start over**)

8. Go back to the Alley

The musty smell is too much for you. You head back to the Alley. The bathrooms are open. Did someone open them? They weren't open before...

- **Go to icebox (Refer to 11)**
- **Go back to the bathrooms (Refer to 10)**

9 Push icebox in front of cubicles

You head back to the kitchen to grab the icebox, but as you're pushing you unearth a web ball on the floor. There is something shiny inside it. Should you risk it?

- **Grab the thing (Refer to 6)**
- **Keep pushing (Refer to 12)**

10. Bathroom

You walk into the bathroom. In the Male bathroom, there are windows and locked cubicles. The windows are still intact, after all this time. You head into the Female bathroom, and see an open window. The cubicles are also locked, with doors to the floor, but it's worth a try finding something to boost you up.

- **Push icebox (Refer to 9)**
- **Go back to Alley (Refer to 4)**

11. Look at icebox

You look at the icebox. There's nothing inside but stuck to its side is a webby blob, with a shiny object underneath its surface. Should you grab it?

- **Grab it (Refer to 13)**
- **Go back to bathroom (Refer to 10)**

12. Keep pushing

You reluctantly continue to push the icebox out of the kitchen. You look back and see a dark rectangular shape from where the icebox was. You move and see a dark rectangular shape from where the icebox was. You move closer to get a better look and realise it's a vent.

- **Climb into the vent (Refer to 14)**
- **Keep pushing the icebox (Refer to 15)**

13. Grab it

You brush the webs away with your sleeve and grab a small, rusty key. You recall the bathroom being unlocked and wonder what the key is for- when it hits you. The gate! You stand up and hurry down the alley and into the dusty tunnel. You fumble to put the key into the rusty, copper lock and step out into the clean air. A few steps forward, and the light from outside surrounds you... (**You win!**)

14. Climb into the vent

You lean down and climb slowly into the open vent. Luckily, you fit in the tight vent and continue climbing to discover where it goes to. The vents are cold and almost suffocating. You feel yourself sweating and you begin to feel dizzy, as if all the air has left your body. After what felt like forever, you finally reach another section. There are two options. What will you decide?

- **Climb to the left vent (Refer to 16)**
- **Climb to the right vent (Refer to 17)**

15. Keep pushing the icebox

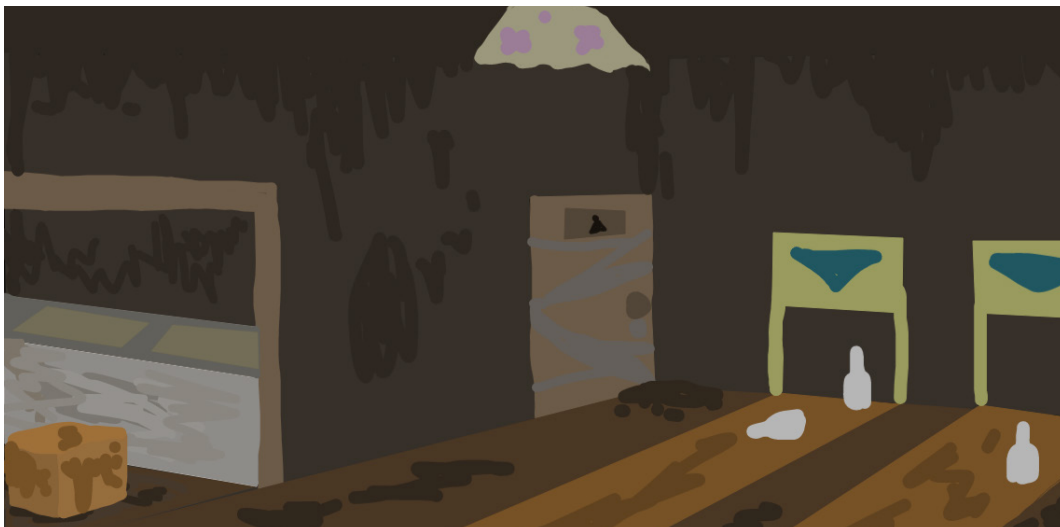
You ignore the vent and continue pushing the icebox. You shove the icebox as hard as you can through the bathroom, lining it up with the cubicle door. You climb on top of the icebox and pull yourself above the cubicle. You land with a slight oomph on the tiled floor and boost yourself up to the window using the toilet. It cracks slightly under your feet and in a panic, you cut your hand on a remaining piece of glass. You keep going and wriggle your way through the small window. You drop onto the grass outside where you can smell the fresh air... **(You win!)**

16. Climb into the left vent

You choose the left vent after stupidly mumbling eeny meeny miny moe. You crawl your way through the vent and you can see the slight glint of light on one side of the vent. You keep going until you reach a sharp turn. You poke your head out of the vent to look around. You realise you're above the cubicle in the Female bathrooms. You turn your body around so you can safely jump down. You can see the open window from here. You step onto the toilet but slip and soak your left shoe in the toilet water. You make a disgusted face but continue climbing to reach the window. You throw your body out the window and fall down two storeys. You hit your head on the cement and unfortunately die. **(Start over)**

17. Climb into the right vent

You shuffle your way uncomfortably through the right vent. As you crawl your way through, you can hear the creaking of the vents all around you. The vent gives a great groan and collapses under you. You land in a heap on the tiled floor of an old, wrecked milk bar... **(Wait for part 2 in the next issue!).**



HHHS Hal



Emmy Woods

loween Art



Pasha Kurskiy

***HAPPY HALLOWEEN,
EVERYONE!***