



T t was Halloween night in Halloween Town.

Ghouls, goblins, werewolves and witches gathered in the town square to wait for the return of their leader, Jack Skellington – the pumpkin king.

Fresh from his night of fright, Jack Skellington rode into town, his fearsome pumpkin costume ablaze. The admiring crowd of monsters cheered, as Jack leapt from his wooden horse and doused the flames in a fountain.

"Great Halloween, everybody," said the two-faced Mayor.

"I believe it was our most horrible yet," added Jack Skellington.

"Thanks to you, Jack!" replied the Mayor.



Everyone in Halloween Town thought Jack Skellington was a wonderful Pumpkin King and they couldn't wait to tell him how much they adored him.

"You're such a scream, Jack!" one vampire cheered.

"You're a witch's fondest dream!" cried a witch.

From the edge of the crowd, a ragdoll named Sally watched Jack, her heart filled with longing.

Suddenly, an evil scientist, grabbed hold of Sally's arm.

"The deadly nightshade you slipped me wore off, Sally," the scientist said.

The scientist was Sally's creator, Dr. Finkelstein, who had created Sally in his laboratory. In return, he expected Sally to be his companion, forever.



"You're coming with me!" Dr. Finkelstein said, trying to pull Sally away.

Thinking quickly, Sally picked the threads that attached her ragdoll arm, causing her arm to detach. She fled to the graveyard, leaving her arm to knock Dr. Finkelstein on the head.



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In the square, the crowd tried to get closer to their king. Soon, Jack found himself surrounded.

"Ooh, Jack, you make wounds ooze and flesh crawl!" cooed a swamp monster.

But none of the praise and good cheer mattered to Jack. Like Sally, he wanted to escape, too.

While the Mayor made an announcement, Jack took the opportunity to slip away.

"Nice work, Bone Daddy," a musician called after him.

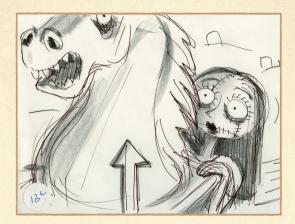
"Yeah, I guess so. Just like last year," Jack replied.

Jack walked forlornly to the graveyard, where he summoned Zero from his tomb. Zero was Jack's ghost dog who had a glowing orange pumpkin nose.

As Jack walked, he boasted to Zero of his fame throughout the world as the king of fear. But, Jack was bored of making people scream all the time. He wanted more than being the pumpkin king.



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Jack felt something was missing from his life. He didn't think anyone in Halloween Town could possibly understand.

But someone did understand.

Sally had heard everything from behind a gravestone. She knew exactly how Jack felt. But Sally was too timid to reveal herself, so she watched as he walked into the forest with Zero.

"Sally!" Dr. Finkelstein called, when he heard her return to his castle. "You've come back."



"For this?" He said, holding up Sally's arm. He led her to his laboratory where he reattached her arm.

Sally told Dr. Finkelstein that she was feeling restless.

"It's a phase, my dear. It'll pass," Dr. Finkelstein said. "We need to be patient, that's all."

But Sally didn't want to be patient.



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