

Some nights

Some nights we travel,
some nights we don't.
Some nights we're scary...
you guessed it,
we're ghosts!
Strolling through hallways
or streets full of lights,
moving from house to house,
not trying to bring humans fright.
Tonight though,
we peek and sneak.
We look for humans...
it's Halloween!
We say trick
and they say treat.
We like to scare
when they are sweet.
We scare on this night,
we scare on this week.
We jump and scream –
it's Halloween!
Humans are making costumes,
jumping rope,
getting ready to scare the ghosts.
They try to scare us,
but not *this* year.
We'll go out
without a hint of fear.
We'll dress in our costumes
big and small.
I don't think the other ghosts
will like that at all.
We drape ourselves in curtains,
we hide ourselves in masks.
We make it so the other ghosts
can't do their evil tasks.
We're going outside,
right here, right now.
Yes, now's the time to scare.
All the little boys and girls
with their crazy hair
will shriek and scream,
so loud and clamorous
that they could break a house.
The only thing that's never scared
is that tiny mouse.
He scuttles around the rooftops,
he's just our kind of guy.
Now we drift around the town
from underground up to the sky,
running here and there,
over to every door.
A different surprise at every house
and ghosts drifting in the air.
We hurry past the cemetery,
a ghost's favorite place to scare,
skipping through the alleyways
and jumping here and there.
We drift nearer to a human gang,
quiet as can be.
Closer, closer, closer now,
and... *boo!* It's Halloween!

– AINSLEY CARR, 10,
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS



YOUNG WRITERS PROJECT



"The Sky's the Limit," by Phi Freebern, 12, Richmond

Day slowly comes

The night is dark.
The moon seems friendly.
The stars shine brightly.
The wind whispers.
The flowers slowly grow.
The scent is sickly.
The sap on the tree is sticky...
Dawn is coming.
The sky has turned bright orange.
Stars disappear.
The moon turns into the sun.
Day has slowly come.

– I. AMOS, 10, KILLINGTON

Haikus

Painting

A splash of scarlet,
add in some graceful blue, and,
here, a masterpiece.

Fish

In the red coral,
swimming in the navy blue,
they look up at me.

– NATALIA TARBELL, 10,
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS

Barrel racing

I race around the rusty barrels.
The crowd starts to cheer.
I am so focused that I can't hear.
To the alleyway I go.
I hope the crowd enjoys the show.
Later I untack my horse
and give her a treat.
It feels so weird to be back on my feet.
Last, I get my reward money and ribbon.
The people who stayed and see
start to yell, "Hooray!"
Barrel racing is something I love,
and my horse loves the sport too.
My horse's name is Molly.
(The lady who helped me that night
was also named Molly!)
Molly is a horse for both
beginners and advanced riders.
When I put my horse's halter on her,
I hear a *pop!*
She is the one I love.
When she canters,
it's like she's flying with a dove...

– MARLEA PARKER, 10,
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS

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HOW TO JOIN: Young Writers Project (YWP) welcomes teens, ages 13-18, to join our free, online community of writers and visual artists. Youth who are 12 may join YWP with parental permission. Teachers are also invited to join to submit work on behalf of younger students for publication. To join or for more information, go to youngwritersproject.org.

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