

Library Lines by Olivia Martello; Kirkland Town Library staff

Halloween Books and Movies

It's ironic how much I love Halloween, considering that I cover my eyes just watching horror movie commercials. Aside from that, I really do love all the parts of Halloween. I love the costumes; as a kid, I spent weeks deciding what I would dress up as, and I jump at any chance to dress up for Halloween even now. I love jack-o-lanterns and decorations. I love the mystery and magic of a Halloween night, trick-or-treating in the moonlight or staying inside to eat Halloween treats and watch a movie. With a little help from the Kirkland Town Library, you can enjoy Halloween fun and thrills this month and all year long!

Ghostly: A Collection of Ghost Stories collected by Audrey Niffenegger, has a variety of great short stories from different authors, including Edgar Allan Poe, Neil Gaiman, and Edith Wharton. There are many different kinds of ghost stories in this collection, ranging from the humorous, like P.G. Wodehouse's "Honeysuckle Cottage", to the creepy, like Kelly Link's "The Specialist's Hat". With so many stories to choose from, you're sure to find something to enjoy.

Another short story collection is *Toil and Trouble: 15 Tales of Women and Witchcraft*, edited by Jessica Spotswood and Tess Sharpe. This collects stories from different young adult authors, each bringing their own tale of a teenage witch, with settings ranging from the 1600's to the present day. Even if you're not a fan of young adult stories, you'll likely find a good tale of witchcraft in this collection.

Pumpkinheads is a fun graphic novel for all ages that's perfect for fall. Written by Rainbow Rowell and illustrated by Faith Erin Hicks, you won't find any monsters or witches here, but you will get a cute story of friends working at a pumpkin patch. Josiah and Deja are two teenagers who work together at a pumpkin patch, and Deja turns their last night into an adventure through all the pumpkin patch's attractions. It's a sweet story of friendship and love, with illustrations that show all the lovely details of the pumpkin patch as you journey through s'mores and hay rides with the characters.

You can't mention Halloween without Stephen King, and we have several of his books available. From horror classics like *The Shining* or *Misery*, new favorites like *Doctor Sleep* or *The Outsider*, and even short story collections, we have all the spooky stories you could want this October and beyond! (Just be sure to carve out a month or so if you read *The Stand*).

We also have some great novels with classic Halloween characters, like Dracula and Frankenstein. Everyone is likely familiar with these monsters, but if you've never read the original books, this October is a great time to start! Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is often

considered the first work of science fiction, while Bram Stoker's *Dracula* is a Gothic horror classic, both worthy of a read or re-read. We also have graphic novel adaptations of both of these that bring new life to the stories.

Finally, we have a wide selection of Halloween movies, whether you want something family-friendly or something scary. *Paranorman*, *Hocus Pocus*, *Frankenweenie*, and *Coco* are great options for the whole family to enjoy together, especially for younger kids or those who don't like anything too scary. If you can handle big scares, we also have several horror movies, like *The Shining*, *Halloween*, *It*, and *Rosemary's Baby*.

Whether you want a book or a movie, a small scare or a big one, the Kirkland Town Library has you covered this Halloween season!