



## SCHOOL OF HALLOWEEN

by Olivia Arieti

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Synopsis: Miss Salem, Sir Simon and Count Dracula give a few tips to their pupils before their first Halloween outing. They also tell them about the origin and traditions of the spookiest night of the year.

## CHARACTERS

Miss Salem – Witch, Teacher

Abigail – Witch

Glenda – Witch

Hazel - Witch

Edith – Witch

Tabby - Witch

Sir Simon – Ghost, Teacher

Eddie – Ghost

Clyde - Ghost

Blair - Ghost

Jason - Ghost

Count Dracula – Vampire, Teacher

Damien - Vampire

Arnold - Vampire

Lenora - Vampire

Beth - Vampire

## SETTING

A cave. A table, stools, a cauldron.

## TIME

The night of Halloween.

## PROPS

Broomsticks.

At rise: (*SALEM enters followed by her pupils. They have their broomsticks.*)

**SALEM:** Now you girls place those broomsticks against the wall and take a seat. There are still a few things we must go through before going out tonight.

**ABIGAIL:** I'm so excited, Miss Salem.

**TABBY:** Me too. It will be our first time.

**SALEM:** Well, October 31<sup>st</sup> is a truly special night, Tabby.

**EDITH:** It marked the end of summer, my mom told me.

**SALEM:** Oh yes, a festival called Samhain took place with big fires to scare away all the evil spirits that came out of their dwellings.

**ABIGAIL:** (*Laughs*) But we're still here.

**TABBY:** Not even the scariest Jack-o-Lanterns can keep us away.

**SALEM:** Indeed. Also our best friends, ghosts, vampires and zombies are dying to scare those silly mortals out of their skins this evening.

**GLEENDA:** Aren't the skeletons joining in too?

**SALEM:** Of course, Glenda. It's Halloween and all spirits will be roaming around. Now let me tell you that the word, 'witch' comes from 'Wicca', (*spells it*) w-i-c-c-a, a very old pagan religion.

**EDITH:** Seems we've always been pretty famous.

**SALEM:** True, Edith. Folks didn't treat us too well in the past. My name recalls a town where lots of bad things happened to us.

**HAZEL:** There was a big witch hunt, my nanny said.

**SALEM:** That's why we hid in oak trees or caves and hung out at night time only, but we never missed our Halloween outings. Luckily, our black cats, owls and crows were there to give a warning.

**HAZEL:** How sweet of them.

**SALEM:** Also our terrifying screams helped. Let me hear them, girls. Make them as shrill and creepy as possible.

(*WITCHES scream.*)

**SALEM:** Brr, that was really scary. The cackle now.

*(WITCHES cackle.)*

**SALEM:** Perfect. And can you tell me what do witches do?

**GLEENDA:** They ride broomsticks.

**WITCHES:** *Witch, old witch, How do you fly?*

**SALEM:** *(Laughs.) On a broomstick going by.*

**TABBY:** They also make potions.

**SALEM:** And above all?

**ABIGAIL:** They cast spells.

**SALEM:** Very good, Abigail. Say, do you know what we put into our cauldron?

**HAZEL:** Rats, snakes and toads.

**TABBY:** Poisoned herbs and roots too.

**SALEM:** Then simply mix the ingredients and you'll have the tastiest witch stew or *(cackles)* the most venomous potion.

**GLEENDA:** What about the magic formula?

**SALEM:** That will be your homework. Think of some funny weird words to give power to your spells. Don't copy the well-known ones, they wouldn't work for you.

**HAZEL:** And remember to keep them secret.

**SALEM:** Now put on your hats, get your broomsticks and we'll see if you know how to ride them properly. Flying high is fun, but it must also be safe.

*(WITCHES put on their hats, take their broomsticks. SIR SIMON enters followed by his ghost students.)*

**SIMON:** Miss Salem, still here? Don't you know your time's up and I have a class too?

**SALEM:** I thought you would be in the graveyard this evening.