

Transcript for Story On Podcast: It Went Dance in the Night - Halloween Nouns

Chapter 1: Opening

Hello friends! And welcome to Story On. I'm Laura, your host and I am so glad you are able to join us here today!

Oooh! I am so excited to get started with our first Halloween story today!

I love Halloween SO MUCH and have soooo many story ideas, but I can't do them all!

To help me focus, I'm going to write down a bunch of nouns. That's a fancy word for people, places and things.

So, I'm going to write down a bunch of Halloween nouns on some small pieces of paper and put them in a jar. Then, I'll draw 5 Halloween nouns to use in my Halloween story! Ready?

Let me just shake my jar up real well....

Ok, first word is....Frankenstein. Next is....candy. Third word is....mummy. The Fourth word is....skeleton and the fifth is....ghost.

Ooohh ok, so, my five Halloween nouns are Frankenstein, candy, mummy, skeleton and ghost.

Those are some awesome Halloween words! I can work with that! Now I'm going to pop off and write my story, then I'll be right back to share it with you! Don't go anywhere, ok!?

[clock ticking]

Alright! I'm ready! Let's get to the story [witch's cackle]

Chapter 2: Story

This is "It Went Dance in the Night"

[music]

Boney danced across the living room in the moonlight. He slid forward on the wooden floor, then paused, bent his knees and jumped over the rug, spinning around in the air and landing softly next to the couch.

Boney picked up a stuffed vampire bat and twirled around, holding its wings. He giggled.

He just LOVED this time of day... When all his human roommates had disappeared for the night and Boney could have the place to himself to do his most favorite thing in the whole world: DANCE.

Rustle rustle, shuffle shuffle, snap crack....Uh oh. Footsteps were thumping down the stairs. The hall light flicked on.

“Oh no! I gotta get back to my hanging place!” Boney scurried across the floor.

Shuffle step, shuffle step. He couldn't help but snap his fingers along the way. He was feelin' the beat! He jumped and clicked his heels together as he soared into the air.

There! He'd made it back to his hook on the living room window. Boney relaxed and let his arms and legs dangle like a rag doll.

The light flashed on in the kitchen. Boney watched in the reflection of the window as one of the humans picked up a carton of milk and took a big swig straight from the spout.

Ugh, Disgusting! thought Boney as he held completely still, not so much as moving a muscle.

Boney was incredibly good at holding super duper still. He had lots of practice. In fact, he did it all day. every. day. He would freeze up early in the morning when the first light pierced the darkness, and then hold still allllllll day long until the humans had gone to bed at night and the house was delightfully dark again.

Why did he do that, you may be wondering? Well, Boney is a decorative Halloween skeleton.

You know, the kind that hangs from hooks or poses on top of hay bales. Yeah, you've seen those guys all over town around Halloween, haven't you? Well, I bet you didn't know that they come to life when we're all sleeping.

They do a pretty good job at keeping it hidden from their house-humans like you and me.

But, don't worry, they're all very sweet. Super friendly, gentle souls; they wouldn't hurt a maggot, let alone a fly...they're definitely more scared of you than you are of them.

But they've got a lot of personality packed into those hard, dangly bodies.

Just like you and I, the skeletons all have their own special interests. Some love reading and so they spend the whole night pouring through any books they can get their bones on.

Others enjoy yoga, building with legos, knitting...but, this particular skeleton, Boney. He loved dancing. He would never stop, if he had the choice.

I mean, there were occasional interruptions, like when the humans went to the bathroom or to the kitchen for a drink or the occasional midnight snack, but for the most part, Boney could dance uninterrupted all. Night. Long. It was spectacular.

And since he spent so much time practicing, he could do all kinds of cool moves. He danced better than most people!

So, the human put the milk carton back in the fridge and disappeared into the dark night.

Boney leapt down off his hook with a spin. He landed with a clickettyclack. Back to dancing! He twirled through the air... with a bit too much excitement. Boney crashed into the coffee table in front of the couch and landed with a thump on top of the tv remote.

In the kerfuffle, the power button got pressed and the tv turned on. [power on] The bright colorful lights and music exploded into the dark and quiet night.

The most wonderful music blasted from the speakers and the dancers lit up the screen in colorful, flowing costumes, surrounded by an audience full of cheering fans.

Boney was mesmerized. He had never heard such beautiful music or seen such impressive dance moves!

“Holy Halloween candy! I can’t look away!” Boney gasped.

He began dancing around, copying the moves of the performers.

He was a bit wobbly at first. It was hard to get the timing right. But, after some practice, he was able to keep up! Boney felt like a dancing superstar. If he had a heart, it would have been bursting with happiness. He laughed joyfully as he shimmied around the room.

Suddenly, the stage full of dancers bowed and curtsied and ran behind the curtain. [applause] A man and woman waved as they quickly entered center stage and struck a pose. They stood still, arms wrapped around each other in a tight embrace. Their heads were down.

The music started and they began slowly dancing around together. They were telling an emotional story with their movements.

Boney stood frozen. It was the most beautiful performance he'd ever seen.

"I want to dance like that!" he whispered. He stood up straight.

The only thing is...Boney needed a partner. It would be impossible to dance like that without one. "I will find the perfect partner," he said. "I can feel it in my bones!"

Boney stroked his chin thoughtfully. Who or what would make a good dance partner? His options were kind of limited since he couldn't go outside.

He moonwalked over to the mantel and saw the frankenstein perched up there.

"Hello there, dreadfully beautiful night, isn't it?" Boney asked.

Frankenstein moaned in response. [ooohhhh]

"Hey, would you like to dance?" Boney offered.

"Dance?" groaned Frankenstein. "Ok, me try."

He hopped down off the mantel and landed with a thump. One of his arms fell off.

"Oh dear, are you ok?" Boney asked as he handed it back.

Frankenstein nodded. "Never been better," he answered.

Boney chuckled, "Shall we?" He held out his arms and they began dancing together.

Frankenstein was very stiff. He moaned and groaned as he moved.

Boney pulled Frankenstein's arm to spin him...but his hand came right off.

"Yikes!" said Boney as he stared, surprised. Frankenstein's hand was still holding on tightly to Boney's fingers.

Frankenstein took it back with a grumble and stuck it back on to his arm. "That's better," he growled.

Boney smiled, somewhat uncomfortably. Perhaps a partner whose limbs were more securely attached would be better.... "Thanks for the dance, Franky" he said. "I...I think I'll see who else feels like dancing tonight...."

"OOoooookay," Frankenstein said as he limped back over to the mantel.

Boney danced his way to the entryway, just inside the front door. There was a small stack of pumpkins with a friendly-looking mummy wrapped in grey cloth sitting on top. "Hi there," said Boney, "Fancy a dancy?" he questioned, spinning around and then striking a silly pose.

"I don't know...I'm not much of a dancer," answered Wraps.

"Oh but it's so fun! Give it a try...maybe you'll like it!" encouraged Boney.

Wraps stood up slowly and stuck his arms out stiffly. "Ooook. I'll try," he moaned.

"Follow my lead," directed Boney as he began to sway back and forth slowly.

Wraps copied. "Heyyyy, I'm doing it!" he said chuckling. [hahaha]

"Gimme your hands," suggested Boney.

Wraps happily took Boney's hands and they swayed around together.

"You're doing great!" Cheered Boney. "Ok, now for a spin!"

Boney sent Wraps spinning with a flick of his wrist. Wraps twirled around and around and around. A strip of cloth came loose and began winding the two of them together. They collapsed in a tangly mess.

"Ughhhh," moaned Wraps.

"That did not go as expected...." said Boney, giggling. [giggle]

Perhaps a mummy wasn't the best choice for a dance partner either. He wiggled free from the cloth and helped wind Wraps back together. "Thanks for the dance, Wraps. I'm going to see if there's anyone less...tangly to dance with."

Boney skipped back through the living room. Despite his bad luck, he remained confident that he could find the perfect partner he sought. Boney paused mid-step.

“What’s that sound?” he wondered. There was a strange noise in his ear hole.
[boohooing].

It was coming from outside, in front of the bay window close to where his hook was. Boney tiptoed over with his arms in the air like a ballet dancer.

Could it be the decorative Halloween ghost that Boney often found himself watching on long days? The ghost’s sheets flailed around so beautifully in the breeze.

Boney placed his head against the cold glass and peaked outside. The ghost was shaking, with its flowing cloth covering its eyes.

“Oh, the poor little ghost is crying! I wonder why!” Boney was concerned. He was a very empathetic skeleton. See, I told you these guys are sweet and harmless.

Anyway, Boney raised a thin finger to the glass and made a quiet knocking sound.
[knock knock knock]

The ghost looked around, startled. “What was that!? Where did it come from!? Is someone there? Who’s there!?” It sounded scared.

Boney waved. “It’s just me, Boney.”

The ghost turned toward him and let out a loud scream. [scream] “A skeleton! A spooky Halloween skeleton! Please don’t hurt me, ok!? I’m just Boeey, the ghost. I’m out here minding my business, trying to make it to daybreak! When the dreadful darkness disappears and I can relax again!”

“Oh dear,” thought Boney. “She’s afraid of the dark!” How could he make her feel better? How could he show Boeey that he was friendly and help take her mind off the weird shadows and noises that filled the night? It can be kind of creepy out there in the dark.

“I’ve got it!” Boney thought happily.

He clapped his hands together and started to dance. He spun around quickly then stopped with a stomp of his foot. He waved his arms in the air and shook his hips. Boney was thrilled to see that Boeey was watching closely. She wasn’t crying anymore.

Soon, she began clapping and cheering. [yay! Nice move!] She was enjoying his dance! It was working! Boney continued dancing. He leapt through the air, twirled and kicked one of his legs high above his head.

Then, he stopped and pointed to her. “Your turn!” he called through the glass.

She looked surprised. “Me?” she repeated with a shocked expression. Ok, she always looked like that. It’s a ghost thing...But I guess she looked even more shocked.

Then, she slowly began waving around her sheet and spinning in the air from her hook.

“I...I’ve never danced before!” she yelled.

“It’s wonderful, isn’t it!?” Boney encouraged her from inside.

“It sure is! I don’t feel scared anymore!” she answered, happily.

Then, he began dancing along with her and together, they danced the rest of the night and the next night and the next night and the night after that.

They continued dancing together every night until suddenly it was time for the house-humans to put away the Halloween decorations for another year.

As Boney was gently placed into his storage bin, he was delighted to see Booeey laying next to him.

After the lid was on and the storage closet was wonderfully dark, Boney and Booeey hugged each other tightly, closed their eyes and fell into a deep sleep til next Halloween.

[music]

The End

Chapter 3: Discussion

What did you think about my story about Boney the dancing skeleton!?

Did you hear the Halloween nouns that I drew from my jar?! Remember, my words were Frankenstein, candy, mummy, skeleton and ghost.

Would you like to write your own Halloween story?

Make a list of some Halloween nouns. Remember, nouns are people, places or things!

Then, put the papers in a jar and pull out three or four. Can you use those words to create your own story?!

And send it to me laura@storyonpodcast.com

[cheerful closing theme music starts]

That's our show for today!

Before we go, I'd like to say a special thank you to Athena, who was the voice for Boeey the ghost! Thanks Athena!

I'd also like to say a big thank you...to you! Our listeners who are joining in from 126 cities across five continents! We are so thrilled that you are enjoying the show!

If you would like to support Story On, please leave us a five star review wherever you get your podcasts, and don't forget to tell your friends about us!

We'll be back next week with another Halloween story! Until next time!

[music fades]