

“Tricks Or Treats: Scare vs Share” preview pages #1

Written by Frederick Passmore

(The wife enters with a bowl of candy and gospel tracts.)

Karen: "Boy, we're having a lot of kids this year!" *(She opens the door and there are two small children in costumes.)*

Kids: "Trick or treat!"

Karen: "Oh my goodness, who could these little people be?"

Kid 1: "We're the Anderson kids, from across the street!"

Kid 2: "You didn't know it was us, did you, Mrs. Brown?"

Karen: "I sure didn't, what great disguises!"

Kids: "Thanks! Our mom helped us!"

Karen: "Well, she did a great job. *(Taking some candy from the bowl, she drops some in their bags.)* Here's some candy, kids... *(She holds up a tract.)* ...**and** some fun little booklets for you to read later!" *(She drops them in the bag also.)*

Kids: "Thank you!" *(They run off.)*

Karen: *(Closing the door.)* "Good thing I bought some extra candy. *(Calling to the next room.)* Honey, the kids are hitting us heavy tonight, why don't you get the door a few minutes while I check on the pumpkin pie?"

Howard: *(From the next room.)* "I'll be right there!"

Karen: *(As she leaves the room.)* "The candy and Gospel tracts are on the table beside the door!"

(A moment after she leaves, Howard comes in, carrying on a scary mask.)

Howard: "Heh, heh, this will put a fright into those little monsters! *(He puts it over his head.)* I'm ready for ya, kids."

(Play Track #2: Doorbell rings. USE THIS TRACK FOR EACH DOORBELL RING NEEDED!)

Howard: "Aha, my first victims!"

(Howard opens the door from behind so that the kids cannot see him.)

Kids: *(Together.)* "Trick or treat!!!"

(Howard jumps from behind the door, with arms raised and yelling.)

Howard: "**BOO!**"

(The several kids scream, tossing their candy bags, and run away in terror.)

Howard: *(Closing the door, and laughing.)* "Oh, that was priceless! This is too much fun. But they forgot to get their candy! Oh, well, more left for me." *(He pulls the mask up off of his face, and opens a piece of candy from the bowl. As he eats it, he looks at one of the Gospel tracts.)*

(Play Track #2 AGAIN: Doorbell rings.)

Howard: *(Pulling the mask back down.)* "Heh, heh, more already!"

(Howard yanks the door open, raises his arms, and roars.)

Howard: **"RAAAAARGGGH!"**

(Instead of being more kids, standing in the door is next-door neighbor Mrs. Snelling!)

Mrs. Snelling: *(Recoiling backwards with a scream.)* **"AAAAAGHHH!"**

Howard: *(Quickly pulling off the mask, he apologises.)* "Mrs. Snelling! I'm sorry, I didn't mean to frighten you, I thought you were more trick-or-treaters."

Mrs. Snelling: *(Holding her chest and gasping for breath.)* "Good heavens!"

Karen: *(Hurrying into the room.)* "What's happening in here?"

(Howard is holding Mrs. Snelling's arm and helping her to a chair as she hyperventilates.)

Mrs. Snelling: *(Yanking her arm away from him and shooting him a nasty look.)* "Your husband nearly frightened the life out of me just now!"

Karen: *(Accusingly.)* "Howard! How could you?"

Howard: *(Contritely.)* "I didn't know it was her, I thought it was just some more kids!"

Mrs. Snelling: *(Indignantly.)* "As if that's any excuse! You shouldn't be trying to scare innocent children, anyway."

Karen: *(Pointedly.)* "That's right, Howard."

Howard: *(Shrugging.)* "Hey, it's Halloween! It goes with the territory. The kids like it!"

Karen: *(Shooting him a look, she turns to Mrs. Snelling.)* "I'm so sorry about this. How can I help you, Mrs. Snelling?"

Mrs. Snelling: "I got tired of listening to all those kids knocking at my door. I left the light off, but they still come! I just ignore them, but then they egg my house! I thought if I just got out and turned off all the lights, they wouldn't bother knocking at all. So I came to visit. *(She looks darkly at Howard.)* But I can see things are just as upsetting over here!"

(Howard grins weakly.)

Karen: "They're usually not, I promise."

Mrs. Snelling: "I thought you two were Christians, why do you participate in all this by encouraging the kids to come beg for candy at your door?"

Karen: "Well, apart from Howard's over-enthusiasm..."

Howard: *(Defensively.)* "Hey, I grew up doing it and it never hurt me! I turned out normal."

Mrs. Snelling: *(Doubtfully.)* "Oh, really?"

(They shoot looks at each other.)

Karen: "Anyway, aside from that, I don't want to be anti-social and turn off the lights, when it's a golden opportunity to give *with* the candy a gospel tract. It's the one time of the year when kids come to *our* door, and I wouldn't miss it for anything. The neighbors all know me, and I'd hate for them to think my religion makes me so uptight that I can't give their kids a little candy. Then they take home a gospel tract that probably everyone in the family will end up reading!"

Mrs. Snelling: *(A light seems to dawn.)* "Why, I hadn't thought of that. What a wonderful idea!"

(Continues...)