

The Aardsma Weekly

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Halloween!



For most people, Halloween is celebrated by dressing up in some ghostly costume and going around knocking on doors and asking for candy. Some people get a little carried away and drape their houses with mock spider webs, ghosts, huge pumpkins, and skeletons.

But around here, we have our own Halloween traditions. (In fact, this year I thought I'd be original and celebrated Halloween by going in for an eye appointment.)

This week Tuesday was crowned with the honor of being Halloween day. All morning you could feel the excitement building. When I got out marshmallows and Rice Crispie's to make marshmallow bars, everyone gathered around for a taste.

When a huge pan of marshmallow bars were cooling in the fridge, everyone melted away, leaving me to clean up!

After I got back from my eye appointment, I passed out candy we had gotten for free from the local Dollar Store. Caleb was literally bouncing off the walls by this time.

I sat down to a test in Science, which I was not looking forward to, while Beka made caramel corn. I, of course, dropped in to 'help' and taste every now and again.

After a supper of turkey sandwiches, Caleb could be contained no longer, so out came the pumpkins. Caleb and Beka worked together on the biggest pumpkin, Timmy and I had medium sized ones all to ourselves, while Matthew got two small ones to carve.

Rebekah and I printed faces of the Internet (I'm not exactly artistic), but Timmy and Matthew made theirs up as they went along.

Dad and Mom gathered around to watch the fun, while the rest of us struggled to make our pumpkins look nice. Timmy kept talking about how his was a complete failure and we all reassured him that ours were failures to. Timmy replied,

"All right, in the count of three we'll all turn our pumpkins around and show our failures!"

At last each pumpkin was carved, lit, and in a place of honor in the living room.

Matthew's pumpkins were very original. One was a combination of an owl and an elf, while the other was a monkey. Timmy's pumpkin had a big mouth, oval eyes, and a huge nose. Rebekah and Caleb's had a laughing mouth, bright eyes, and a cute nose. Mine was girly: big lips, eyelashes, petite little nose, and curvy eyebrows.

When the pumpkins had been sufficiently admired, out came caramel corn, marshmallow bars, and ice cream. Caleb did his best to make himself sick, but we managed to restrain him.

Watching a hilarious movie about leprechauns finished off the night. It had a few ghosts and other such things in it, which made it perfect for Halloween.

At last, we all went to bed late, another perfect Halloween behind us.

The Weekly Bible Verse

Psalm 27:1: The Lord is my Light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?

David: A Man After God's Own Heart

By Rachel Aardsma

Part 8.

"King Saul! King Saul!" A sweaty, exhausted man burst into the throne room where Jonathon and Saul were listening to David play his harp.

"Have you no respect for the king?" an indignant servant cried, catching the arm of the man who had just come charging in and hadn't bothered to bow or show any sign of reverence.

"King Saul!" gasped the man, pushing the servant aside. "I've been sent to tell you... the Philistines... they've gathered their army! They're marching against Israel!" David glanced at Jonathon. A gleam of excitement shot through Jonathon's eyes as he began to press the servant for more information. Jonathon was a trained warrior, and loved nothing more than to march with his father against any fool army who tried to capture Israel. The man and King Saul had a hasty conference, and then the man disappeared.

"Come, Jonathon. We must prepare for battle. You there! Servant! Send for my general immediately! And hurry!" As King Saul barked out orders, David looked in confusion from Jonathon, who was happily swinging his sword around and killing imaginary soldiers, to King Saul.

"What shall I do?" David asked King Saul.

"I shall not need you here at the palace while I am in battle, so I suppose you can go home to your father for a holiday." King Saul dismissed him with a wave of the hand as Abner, the general of King Saul's army, came hurrying up.

David gave a small sigh. He would have loved to go with Jonathon and King Saul to the battle. But oh well. At least he would see his family again.

"Good-bye, David!" Jonathon cried, shaking hands with David later that day. "Sorry you can't come with us, but Father doesn't seem to think you should. But perhaps you can visit me every now and again."

"I'll see what I can do." David replied. He smiled at Jonathon's eager expression. "Have fun, Jonathon."

"I will!" Jonathon replied with a laugh. "Don't worry about me."



A Word About The Weather



It is still very cold here. It warmed up a little at the beginning of the week and then became cold again. Frosts have killed all the flowers and plants, and the weather is below freezing during the night.



A Word of Wisdom



Always treat cats respectfully. (I've still got scars from the last time Pussy's pride got hurt.)