

# A Halloween Dating Story: Don't Let Goblins Scare You Away from Love

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As Halloween approaches, your thoughts may turn to scary movies, witches, and goblins. While these sinister things have nothing to do with love, let's take this opportunity to dispel some creepy notions that arise when thinking about finding a romantic partner.

## Haunted by Unfulfilled Hopes

How many of you hope that you'll someday find the right partner and yet fear that it will never happen? This common dread often causes a "why bother?" attitude that becomes a convenient excuse to avoid doing anything to turn the situation around.

The lack of action is really the scary part and should be your biggest concern. After all, the likelihood of meeting someone by doing nothing is pretty slim. If you're haunted by unfulfilled hopes, why not use this as motivation, create an action plan, and start looking for the love of your life? Get into gear, get out there, and get flirting!

## Horrors of a Broken Heart

It's true, no one consciously volunteers for heartbreak. Yet, you have to take a calculated risk and open your heart to find lasting love. One way to protect yourself is to go slowly during the initial dating period. The first four to eight dates are a time for observation to determine if the person you are seeing is worthy of the risk.

For romantics, the idea of love at first sight can overshadow better judgment, projecting a fabulous future relationship. Unfortunately, this tends to be fictional. To prevent the heartbreak that results from projection, keep yourself grounded in the present moment. Remind yourself of the facts you know, rather than dream of what could be. Choose a "wait and see" mindset to unify your heart and head for more realistic dating decisions.

## Hair Raising Tales of Rejection

Let's face it – when you date, you will get rejected. It's a natural and totally unavoidable part of the singles' scene. Women haven't cornered the rejection market - men feel it too and, they don't like it either.

Here's a way of looking at rejection that may help you not only survive, but thrive. Ask yourself, "Who's next?" First, this powerful question reminds you that the Universe is an abundant place and there are plenty more fish in the proverbial sea. Maybe one got away, but with 42 million singles over the age of 40 in the US, there's absolutely no shortage of prospects.

Second, "Who's next?" thinking gets you focused on what's important – the strong probability that someone good is still out there for you. A positive outlook will pull you through even the toughest times. Ask yourself "Who's next?" and get excited about the great prospects you might meet tomorrow.

## Unearthly Embarrassment

Many people complain they're embarrassed to be single or tell anyone they want a partner. Usually they fear what others will think – as if there's something wrong because you're single. With nearly half the US adult population unmarried, chances are that every other person you know or encounter will be in the same single boat as you!

The stigma of "singlehood" has dramatically diminished, so push past this out-dated viewpoint to recognize that being single is currently "en vogue." If it wasn't prevalent and accepted, there wouldn't be reality TV shows about dating right? Celebrate your freedom and make the most of

what lots of married folk envy. Remember, the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence which means your side is looking pretty lush right now.

Halloween is a fabulous time to meet new people. Costumes let people take greater social risks. For the ladies, pick an alluring costume to cast a spell on the opposite sex. And for the gentlemen, be the prince charming you really are to attract that princess of your dreams. Say "boo" to those relationship goblins, smile, be friendly, and have fun! Trick or treat!

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Ronnie Ann Ryan, The Dating Coach, is a speaker, workshop leader, coach and author of MANifesting Mr. Right. The founder of [www.NeverTooLate.biz](http://www.NeverTooLate.biz), she shares her savvy dating strategies to inspire and build hope that regardless of age or romantic history, finding love is possible! Ronnie has worked with over 1,000 people to successfully help them jumpstart or accelerate their search for love. Ms. Ryan has been featured on Sally Jesse Raphael Radio, MSN.com, MORE.com, Boston's Chronicle, ABC and FOX News, as well as a variety of other print, broadcast and web articles in the US and the UK.