

# HANSEL & GRETEL'S FIRST HALLOWEEN



AS TOLD AND ILLUSTRATED BY ERICA WEISS

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WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY ERICA WEISS



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Hansel and Gretel lived in a small house with their father and step mother.



But their step mother was not very nice...

"THAT'S NOT  
GOOD ENOUGH!"



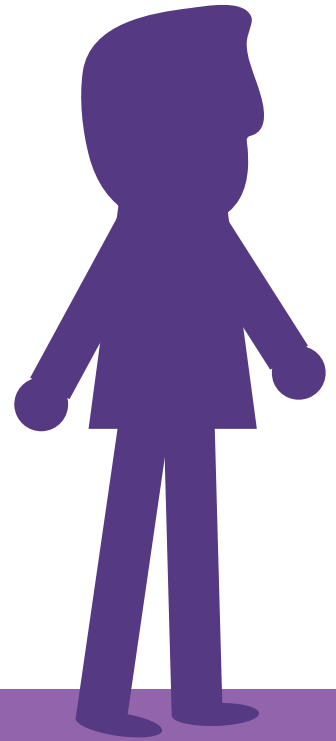
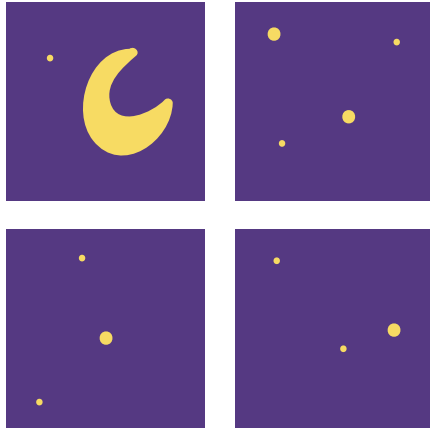
She didn't like the children and was rude and demanding of them most of the time.

"CLEAN IT, AGAIN!"



Yet, Hansel and Gretel did nothing to avoid her.  
It was almost as if they were under a spell.





It was the night before Halloween, and the father tucked the children into bed.

He wished them both a *GOOD NIGHT.*

Their step mother came into their room later to tell them a story.



The story was of this magical cottage made out of candy, that only appeared on the night of Halloween, and tasted better than any trick-or-treating candy ever could. The cottage was not too far from home. Just a ways into the woods, through the brush, and over the creek.

It was Halloween night and Hansel and Gretel were very excited about trick or treating. After all, it was their first Halloween.



They went door to door. *"TRICK OR TREAT!"*



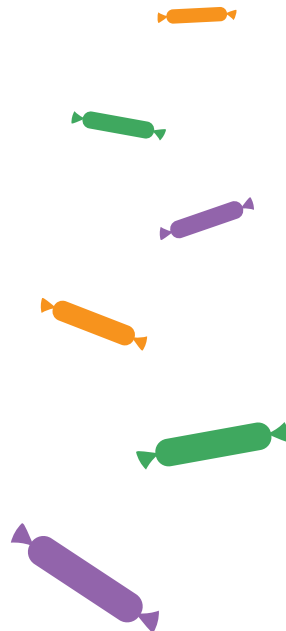
Until they came to the last house on the corner.



Hansel and Gretel  
were very curious  
about the candy  
cottage in the woods.  
They decided they  
wanted to go find it.



But not to get lost, they  
both decided to leave a  
trail of their trick-or-treating  
candy behind them so they  
would be able to find their  
way home.



Into the woods they went.

Through the brush.

Over the creek...





Until they came upon the *CANDY COTTAGE*.



They set down their bags and began to break off pieces of the cottage to eat.



The sound of their chatter and munching and crunching was brought to the attention of the candy cottage witch.

She came outside and offered them even more goodies, and a nice place to rest if they came inside.



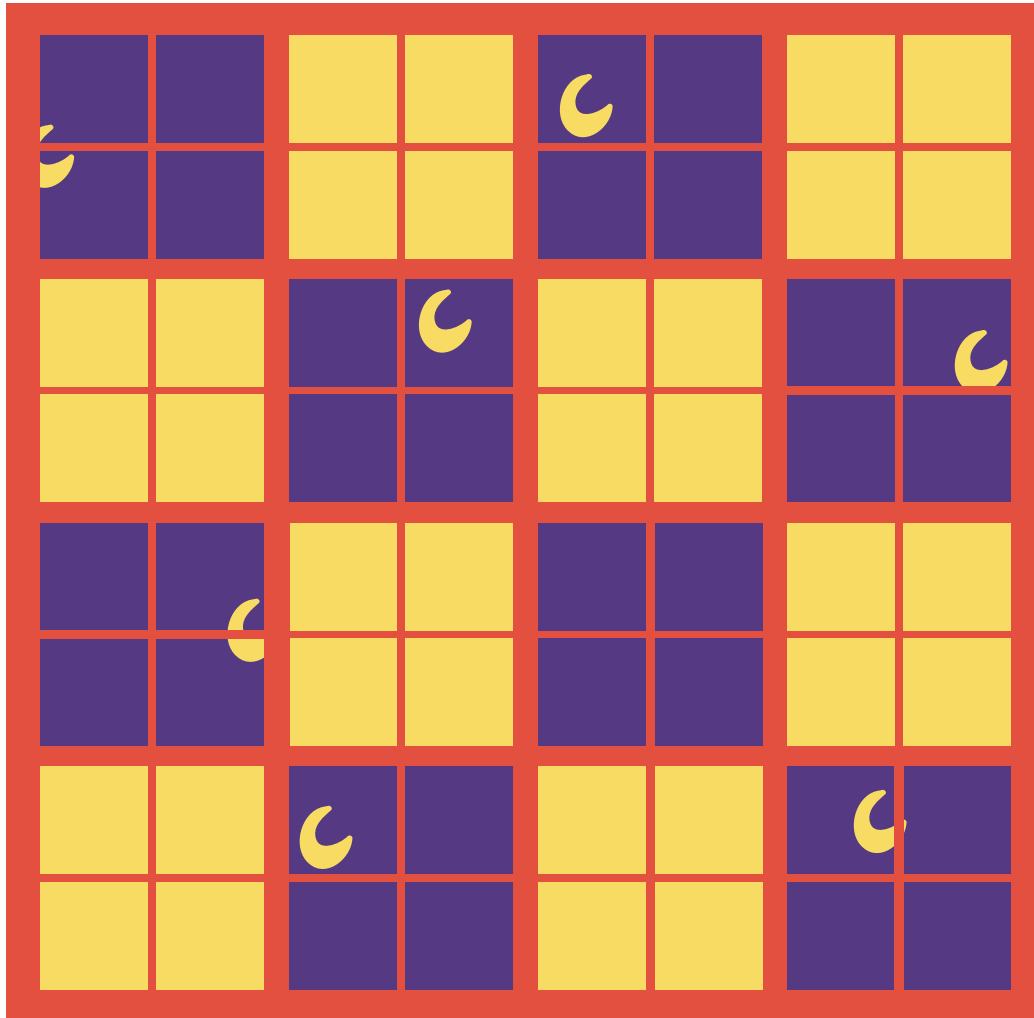
The children didn't think any thing of it, since all of the houses they visited that night were filled with ghosts, ghouls and witches of sorts.

But this was a *GRAVE MISTAKE.*



As they entered the house, the witch captured the children and put poor little Hansel and Gretel into a cage. Laughing proudly at how easy it was for her to catch her dinner.

Days went by and the old witch tried her best to fatten the children up as to make them more plump, to be eaten for a meal.



The children did their best to hide their size, so the witch would never be satisfied and wouldn't cook them for supper.

But the witch grew impatient, and did not want to wait any longer. So she let them out of the cage, started up the oven and opened the door wide to make room for the children.



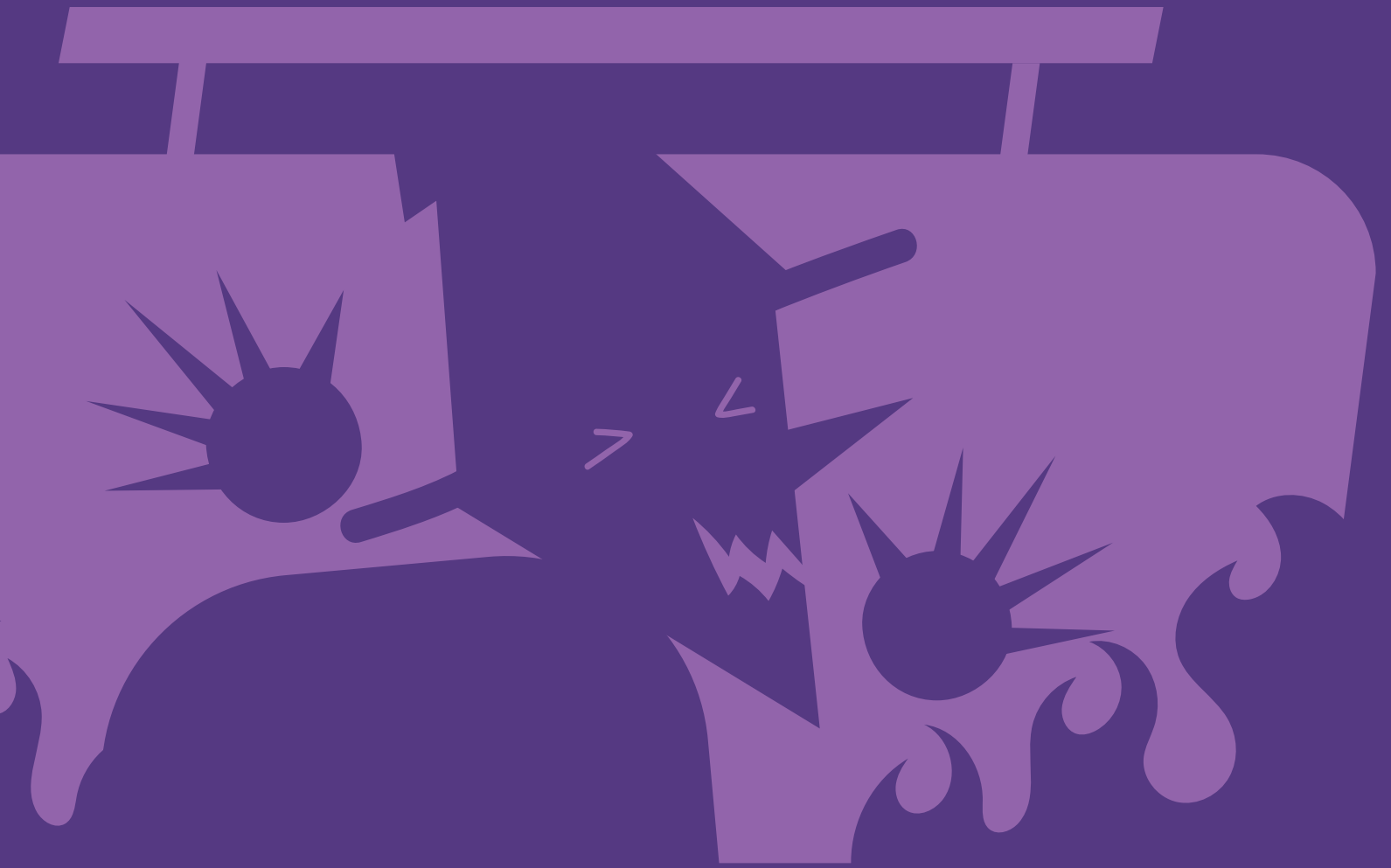
To show them how simple it was to get in,  
she stuck her head into the oven...

*"SEE, IT'S EASY!"* she grimaced.



That was their only chance, Hansel and Gretel both pushed the evil witch into the oven.

*"NOOOOOO!"* she bellowed.

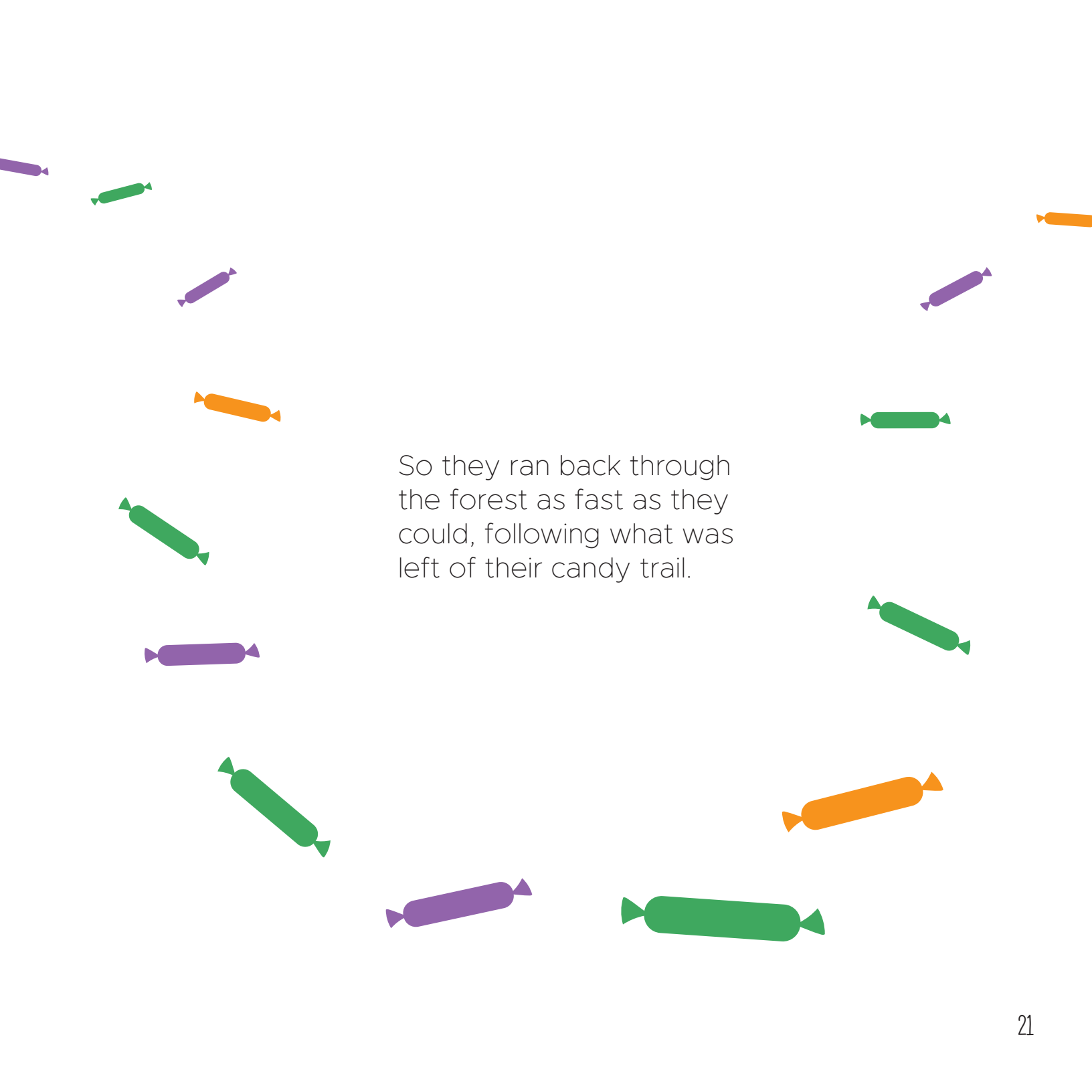


And that was the end of the evil witch.



The image features a central text block surrounded by approximately 18 colorful candy icons. The candies are in shades of purple, green, and orange, and are scattered in various orientations around the text. The text itself is a simple, black, sans-serif font.

Hansel and Gretel were finally free!



So they ran back through  
the forest as fast as they  
could, following what was  
left of their candy trail.

Over the creek.

Through the brush.



Out of the woods they went.



When they got home, their father was so excited to see them, he jumped up for joy, hugging Hansel and Gretel so tight like he never wanted to let them go.

"I am so sorry I let you go trick or treating alone!" the father exclaimed, "But I am glad you are both home safe."



But their step mother was no where in sight.



When the children asked their father where she had went, he said that on Halloween night, she dressed up as a witch and headed towards the woods...



And that was last any of them ever saw of her again.

THE END.







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