**Reflections on Halloween**

By Sadie De La Mare

Well, it’s Halloween again today no doubt there will be loads of children and their parents out after dark. All dressed up as witches and ghosts and other things like that.

I remember well years ago when people didn’t want to go out after dark and Halloween was taken seriously. It was a night when great care was had. Yes, it was a night that demanded respect.

I’ve been thinking, I am going to put on my best clothes, and I am going out this evening. If you can’t beat them, join them!

It’s a nice night. The air is clear and still and its not to cold. Tonight, many people are out.

There goes young Peter with his father both dressed in a sheet, doesn’t it make me laugh. They aren’t frightening at all. Now they are knocking on the door of a house. The door is opened, and they are given sweets. I tell you sweets! Tricque ou festin, trick or treat they say in English. Its not that long ago that if you had knocked on a door the people inside the house would have hidden with their bible and started praying. I tell you sweets!

Well, I am going to have a bit of fun. A little tap on the shoulder and I showed myself just a little bit. My, they were afraid, they both ran like the wind.

There’s Julies house, she is having a party I am going to invite myself. A soft blow here and there and a bit of bother, yes, I am going to have a lot of fun. Ahh I can do something with those apples. I’ve lifted them into the air and people dont know what to do. They are more accustomed to grabbing them from the water. How I laughed when I saw their faces.

Well, I am feeling a bit tiered. That’s enough for the evening but I am going to blow out all of the candles in their jack o lanterns before I go.

You know I haven’t enjoyed myself as much as I have tonight since the bells of St Peters Church rung all by themselves in 1850. The parishioners didn’t know what was happening. It was a bit wicked, but it didn’t hurt anyone.

Well, that’s Halloween finished for another year its treated as game these days, not at all as it used to be but perhaps it’s not so bad after all.

How do I know this.

Me! I died in 1790.