

THE PUMPKINTROLLS

Written by

Xiaoxi Zhu

800 Kings Mountain Dr
Little Rock, AR 72211
(501) 551-9430
xxzhul@ualr.edu

FADE IN:

EXT. HUMAN NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT

The Jack-o'-lanterns outside people's front door are lit up one by one. Several human children coming out from their front door with fancy dress, special mask and candy basket.

INT. PUMPKINTROLL CAVERN - NIGHT

Under the ground, a group of pumpkintrolls, with big pumpkin head and cute children size body, stands noisy crowd at the mouth of the cave. Those trolls life are all about candy, such as the candy piano, the big M&M's football and the Ring Pop light bulb. LOLLY, a 7 years old pumplintroll, is putting on her fancy dress and standing with her friends: JOY and TINA.

JOY
(whispering, to Tina and
Lolly)
Hey, guys. Who do you think will
get the most candy this year?

LOLLY
(excitedly)
Come on! It's obviously gonna be
me!

TINA
You will.

JOY
(laughing)
Only the lollipops though!

Lolly's mom CINDY, a 37 years pumpkintroll lady, comes toward Lolly with two candy basket.

CINDY (O.S.)
(to Lolly)
You always forgot your candy
basket!

Lolly turns her head and sees her mom.

CINDY (CONT'D)
Remember, don't let human children
touch you and don't talk to them!
They are naughty and afraid of us.
And don't just take lollipops, take
some other candies!
(MORE)

CINDY (CONT'D)
Like candy apples! And you need new
kinds of different wrappers for
your clothes.

Lolly takes the basket and continues talking to her friends.

CINDY (CONT'D)
Listen, baby. This is important!
Don't forget the time limit! You
are always the last one come back!
It's so dangerous out there!

LOLLY
(mumbling)
Fine. I'll try.

Cindy shakes her head and walks away.

JOY
(mimicking Cindy, to
Lolly)
Baby, you need to change your
dressing style.

TINA
(overlapping, mimicking
Cindy)
Baby, you need to change your
dressing style.

LOLLY
(with helpless smile)
Come on, guys. Don't make fun of
me!

GRANNY ALMA, one of the oldest pumpkintroll leader, waves her
magic candy wand.

GRANNY ALMA
(in a hurry)
Hey! Calm down, everybody. It's
time to go.

And suddenly, every pumpkintroll disappears under the ground.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT - NEXT TO THE BUSHES

Lolly shows up in a clump of bushes next to a street lamp and
steadies herself. After a while, the group of costumed
children pass the lamppost and she carefully adjusts her
candy paper clothes. Lolly quietly worms her way into the
"Trick or treat" team.

MONTAGE - LOLLY PLAYS "TRICK OR TREAT" WITH HUMAN CHILD

-A MAN dressed up as a creepy shed in front of his house. Suddenly yells when Lolly and other children pass him. And the children scream.

-They hanged a roll of toilet paper in someone's tree and laugh.

-They punch the pumpkins left outside people's doors (except for Lolly). She looks not good.

-Lolly only picks chocolate pops and Dum Dums Pops from a basket that was left outside someone's house, while other children pick a lot of different kinds of candies.

END MONTAGE

EXT. THE HOUSE - NIGHT

They ring the doorbell and yell "Trick or treat" together. A WOMAN comes out and tries to recognize every child, but begin to wrinkle her brow as she came across Lolly.

WOMAN

Whose kid is that?

LOLLY

(gurgling, stuttering in
English)

I'm new here, madam.

The woman smiles and gives Lolly a bag of M&M's. Lolly looks at her basket merrily and continues to follow the other human children.

THE NEXT HOUSE

She raises her head and looks around to realize that most of the human children had already gone back home. Then, she suddenly looks at her watch to see that it's already 11:55 o'clock!

LOLLY

(yelling)

I'm out of time.

Lolly runs as fast as possible.

NEXT TO THE CLUMP OF BRUSHES

When she reaches there, it was past already 12 o'clock.

LOLLY
(dropping her shoulders)
Oh, nooooo!

She sits down suddenly upon the floor under the lamppost with hollow eyes. When the rain falls, Lolly moves her body into the brushes slowly, shakes violently and lays curled up. She holds the candy basket tightly. And her whole face is wet with tears.

LOLLY (CONT'D)
(low)
Will I die?

EXT. STREET - DAY - NEXT TO THE BUSHES

When the sun has risen, WENDY, a 7 years old little girl who is taking LUCKY, her smart dog, for a walk, passing here. Suddenly, Wendy stops and turns her head when she passes a clump of brushes.

WENDY
Hello? Someone there?

No one answer. She approaches the brushes and sees a child of her age fainting in the bushes with Halloween costume.

WENDY (CONT'D)
Are you all right? Why don't you
change your clothes? Where is your
home?

Although Lucky standing there and barking, Wendy walks into the clump of bushes and knelt close to that pumpkin head. When Lolly opens her eyes and realizes that there's a human child close to her, she keeps leaning backwards frightened. At this point, Wendy looks at Lolly carefully and realize that this child in front of her is not a human. Instead of scared, she is happy.

WENDY (CONT'D)
Don't be afraid. I won't hurt you.
I love aliens!

Lolly still says nothing and stares at Wendy cautiously.

WENDY (CONT'D)
(smiling)
Do you want to be my friends? I'd
like to help you find the way home.

Lolly slowly opens her right hand in front of Wendy. There's a lollipop in her hand. Wendy knows that this little monster begins to accept her.

WENDY (CONT'D)
Thanks. My name is Wendy. What's
yours?

LOLLY
(gurgling)
Uh... Lolly.

WENDY
Lolly? Wow! Like the lollipop?

Wendy waves the lollipop that Lolly just gave her.

WENDY (CONT'D)
I like your name! Why you sits
here? Are you lost?

LOLLY
(gurgling)
Can't... go back... home.

Lolly points at the ground.

WENDY
Underground? Well, it's really hard
to go back. Do you have a place to
go? If not, do you want to live
with me? Ummm...

Wendy earnest her face puckered in thought, her chin in her hands.

WENDY (CONT'D)
(suddenly)
Uh, how about my attic? You will
never be found.

Lolly slight nodded her head.

LOLLY
(mumbling)
OK.

Wendy stands up and hurriedly comes to hand Lolly. They walk together through the covered path with Lucky following behind.

EXT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Lolly stands side by side with Wendy and Lucky in front of Wendy's house. Wendy turns to Lolly and places her finger on her lips.

WENDY

Shh.

Also, Wendy turns to Lucky and places her finger on her lips.

WENDY (CONT'D)

(with the tone of lessons)

Shh.

Then, she looks at the front door of her house nervously. Lolly looks a bit scared. However, Lucky looks very relaxed.

INT/EXT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY

A hand appears on the doorknob and twist it. With the door open, there's a beautiful and tidy house interior.

LOLLY

(low)

Wow!

LIVING ROOM

Lolly standing in the living room with wide eyes in a few moments. There's a lot of things that she never saw. A piano that looks like their piano but much bigger and different; the ceiling light's style is different and much brighter; there's no candy product. They walk through the room and up

THE STAIRCASE

Wendy and Lucky already get to the top of the stair.

WENDY

(low, to Lolly)

Come with me.

Lolly keeps looking back and follows them.

INT. WENDY'S ROOM - DAY

Lolly walks into Wendy's bedroom. It's all pink. There's a lot of cute toys, such as teddy bear, elephant plush toy, and monster toy.

WENDY
(excited)
Welcome to your new home.

Lolly smiled.

INT. THE CLOSET - DAY

Wendy takes Lolly inside where there's a little staircase. They walk up the narrow staircase and see a little room.

INT. THE ATTIC - DAY

With the low beams, there's heaps of dusty boxes lay on the floor.

WENDY
This is all my toys and Halloween costumes. My Mom and dad never come here. Let's clean it up!

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY - LIVING ROOM

Wendy gets the cleaner away from her mom's hand runs upstairs. Wendy's mom, Mrs. Ellie, looking at Wendy's back, surprised and confused.

INT. THE ATTIC - DAY

Wendy uses the cleaner to clean up her attic and prepares a cute and warm corner for Lolly to sleep. Lolly sitting in the corner and look at Wendy perplexedly.

INT. THE ATTIC - NIGHT

Lolly cries herself awake from a nightmare. She looks around and realizes that this is not her cave.

INT. THE ATTIC - DAY

Wendy finishes painting several pumpkins and different candies on the WALL.

Lolly lean in to admire her work but leaves a white pumpkin contour that did not paint behind of Lolly! Well, Wendy brings her instant camera and takes a picture of Lolly. And put the picture in that white area.

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY - DINING ROOM

Wendy quickly finishes her meal and takes a bag of candy worms to her room.

INT. WENDY'S ROOM - DAY

Lolly paints in the paper about her underground world and families to Wendy at the edge of Wendy's bed. Suddenly, they turn their head to the door (the knock on the door). Wendy stands up and answers her mom. When she turns back her head, she sees that Lolly has got into the bed. But Lolly's big head is still out there. They smile.

INT. WENDY'S ROOM - DAY

Lolly shows Wendy how to make things by candy, for example M&M's football and little candy piano.

INT. THE ATTIC - DAY

Wendy waves at Lolly and goes downstairs. After she closes the door, Lolly sees Wendy go to school with her friends through the window. Wendy turns her head and smiles to the window of the attic.

INT. THE ATTIC - DAY

Lolly plays with candies and Lucky. Lucky rubs Lolly's pumpkin head with his head in order to comfort Lolly. Lolly smiles.

INT. WENDY'S ROOM - DAY

Wendy and her friends, JOHN and TIM, come into her room. And Wendy opens the door of the attic. At the first time Lolly comes out, they are all be scared. After Lolly gives little candy piano to everyone, they start like Lolly.

EXT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Wendy, John, and Tim go to school with backpack. Suddenly, they bow their heads and look at their feet. Their feet are entangled with several pumpkin vines. When they turn their head and look at the window of Wendy's attic. There's a pumpkin in there.

INT. WENDY'S ROOM - DAY

Lolly shows Wendy and their friends how to let pumpkin seeds become vines in a few seconds. They laugh and dance.

A SERIES OF SHOTS as Wendy, John, and Tim walk into Wendy's room together with clothes change through the season.

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY - LIVING ROOM

Wendy plays piano to Lolly and sings songs when Wendy's parents are not home.

EXT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY

A NEIGHBOR walks pass Wendy's house and sees a big pumpkin moving on the kitchen counter. After rubbing eyes, the big pumpkin is gone.

INT. THE ATTIC - DAY

Lolly plays with a lot of lollipops.

INT. THE ATTIC - DAY

More and more candy products appear in the attic.

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY - KITCHEN

More and more lollipops disappear in the cupboard of the kitchen.

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY - LIVING ROOM

Mrs. Ellie opens the door and comes in. When she walks in front of the TV that is has been turned on, she stops and looks at it with surprised eyes.

EXT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Mrs. Ellie talks with the neighbor. And the neighborhood points to the kitchen.

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Wendy whispers calming words into her sleep when Lolly misses her mother, her home, and her pumpkintrolls friends.

INT. WENDY'S ROOM - DAY

One day, Wendy gets up late and slowly walks into her bathroom. Mrs. Ellie walks into her room.

MRS. ELLIE

(nagging)

Your room is very untidy. Go and put it in order!

Wendy does not hear. Her mom goes upstairs into her attic. Suddenly, Wendy heard a scream from upstairs, when she is brushing her teeth. Wendy rushes out of the bathroom quickly and see the attic door is opened.

MRS. ELLIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(trembling voice)

Hello! This is Mrs. Ellie. I need help immediately. There's a monster in my house. Please come here as soon as possible!

Wendy springs at Mrs. Ellis and tries to stop her when Wendy sees her mom run downstairs in a panic.

WENDY

No! Mom, she's my best friend!
Don't call the police!

However, her mom is freaked out and she would not listen to anything. Mrs. Ellie stretches Wendy's hand to pull her arm and go out of her room.

MRS. ELLIE

Baby, don't stay with that monster!
It's too dangerous!

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - THE STAIRCASE - SAME

Wendy is trying to get rid of her mom's hand. But Mrs. Ellie doesn't let her go and continues to pull her down the stairs. Wendy turns her head and looks at her room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME

Wendy is held on the couch by Mrs. Ellie.

WENDY

(to Mrs. Ellie)

Mom, Lolly is not a monster and she is not dangerous at all! She is my best friend! Mom, she was lost and lonely. Please! Please don't let police take her away! She just wants to go back home.

Mrs. Ellie does not listen to Wendy, but she staring at the front door and Wendy's room. Wendy clenches her fist and fidgets. Suddenly Wendy reaches for her phone, which is in her pocket, while she watches her mom to make sure her mom doesn't see her.

WENDY (TEXT) (CONT'D)

SOS!!! Lolly will be caught by the police! Come to my home, hurry up! Take some pumpkin seeds!

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME

When the police arrive at Wendy's house, they go upstairs and rush into Wendy's room. They put Lolly out of Wendy's room within a big cage and walk through the living room.

EXT. WENDY'S HOUSE - SAME

Then, they put the big cage in a transfer cart. Lolly crouches in that cage. Wendy looks at what they are doing to Lolly.

INT. WENDY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME

She is trying to release herself from Mrs. Ellie and help Lolly. But she could not. Wendy watches Lolly being taken away from her house.

MRS. ELLIE

Go back to your room!

Mrs. Ellie lets Wendy go and turns to the kitchen. Wendy rushes out of the gate.

EXT. WENDY'S HOUSE - DAY

Wendy sees John and Tim are riding towards her home.

WENDY
(anxiously)
Lolly has just been taken by a
transfer cart and several police
cars.

JOHN
We gotta to save her!

TIM
(together)
We gotta to save her!

They look at each other and Wendy suddenly runs to her bicycle.

WENDY
Let's go!

They ride along the street as fast as they could.

EXT. STREET - DAY

When the transfer cart is at the red light, Tim quickly stops his bicycle in front of the transfer cart. At the moment that the driver comes out from the car and walks close to Tim, John climbs in the opened door quickly and gets the key. He throws the key to Wendy. Wendy opens the door of the carriage immediately and gets Lolly out from the cage successfully.

WENDY
(yelling)
Now!

Tim and John cast a lot of pumpkin seeds, that they brought for Lolly, on the ground. And Lolly slowly raises her hand and point to those seeds. Every seed becomes a long vine and wrap around the transfer carts, the police cars, and the policemen. They ride away and disappears into the crowd.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

They appear in a group of children who are dressed in costume and are playing "Trick or treat" from door to door.

They look around and walk out from the crowd carefully. Wendy and her friends help Lolly find the bush and go in there.

JOHN

It's almost that time.

They are hugging together and crying. Wendy gives a leaving present to Lolly: A CANDY APPLE.

WENDY

(smiling)

For your mom. Sorry about what my
mom did to you.

Lolly slightly nods her head and looks at Wendy with a tearful smile. Lolly's body becomes more and more transparent and ultimately disappears. After Wendy turns back sadly, there's a beautiful pumpkin vine pattern that read: MY FRIENDS. SEE YOU NEXT HALLOWEEN.

FADE OUT.