ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!
A massive three metre high pumpkin with small heart shaped windows carved into its walls, stands in the centre of a large field of pumpkins.

Several large signs placed around the field read: “Of The Lantern Estate”. Keep out!

The lounge/ dining/ kitchen area presents a floor of worn out timber surrounded by similar walls. A wooden table centres the room with four wooden stools.

MARIE-LOUISE, a haggard looking 35 year old, toils carving a pumpkin into pieces with a large knife, on a bench near the cast iron stove; there, a large pot is steaming.

Two boys, SQUASH, 13 and CROOKNECK, 11 and a girl, PATTYPAN, 7 enter - shabbily dressed with no shoes, covered in mud.

MARIE-LOUISE
Well look at the three of you. Out you go and get yourselves cleaned up.

Marie-Louise places the pumpkin pieces in the pot.

SQUASH
Is that our pumpkin?

Marie-Louise places the lid on the pot as the three near her with a sad face. Marie-Louise responds the same way.

CROOKNECK
But mom you promised we could make a Jack O’Lantern with it.

She wipes her hands on her apron and bends down to their level.

MARIE-LOUISE
I did promise and I’m really sorry, but the chicken didn’t lay any eggs this morning and there was nothing I could trade at the market.

PATTYPAN
I wish daddy was still alive. We had plenty food then.

Pattypan rushes out, watched sadly by Marie-Louise.

Squash, Crookneck and Pattypan are in a huddle as they point towards the field. Pattypan breaks the clan and broods crossing her arms.
PATTYPAN
But I want one too!

SQUASH
I’ll quickly run in and take one.
No-one will see me.

PATTYPAN
No! I want one too!

CROOKNECK
If she’s getting one then I’m getting one.

SQUASH
Oh all right then, but stay close and don’t make a sound. You don’t want Butternut to hear us.

They dash into the field each picking out a medium size pumpkin, making a quick get away but, Pattypan fumbles, falls and hollows in pain as the boys keep running.

PATTYPAN
Wait!

The two look back, dusk as now set upon them.

SQUASH
Hurry up Pattypan! You know what happens...

The large pumpkin begins to glow inside out as a 40 year old obese female’s silhouette, BUTTERNUT, appears at one of the windows looking their way.

All look to the large pumpkin, gaping in fright. Pattypan still on the ground, holds tight to her pumpkin.

CROOKNECK
She’s seen us!

Butternut shrieks out in a whining manner.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! Peter! Thieves in the field!

Pattypan tries to get up but feels paralyzed.

PATTYPAN
Crookneck, help me up!

Crookneck tries to move but his feet appear frozen on the spot.

PATTYPAN
Squash?

SQUASH
I’m stuck too!
All pumpkins in the field, except theirs, begin to carve themselves out revealing devilish grins and evil eyes and then begin to glow inside out.

**BUTTERNUT (O.S.)**  
Peter! Peter! Come quick!

PETER, a rugged looking 40 year old, dressed in farmer’s clothes, materializes from nowhere and stands in front of them; a lit Jack O’Lantern in hand.

**PETER**  
Well, well, well! Three little thieves.

**BUTTERNUT (O.S.)**  
Peter! Peter! There are thieves in the field!

Peter rolls his eyes as he looks around to the large pumpkin.

**PETER**  
Yes Butternut - I’m dealing with it!

**BUTTERNUT (O.S.)**  
Is dinner ready Peter?! I’m starving!

Peter sarcastically mimics in a whining low tone as he rolls his eyes and sighs.

**PETER**  
I’m starving Peter...I’m thirsty Peter...Peter, Peter, Peter.

Peter shakes his head in frustration then looks to the three angrily.

**PETER**  
So! Stealing my pumpkins are we?

**SQUASH**  
No sir! I mean... yes sir.

Squash downcasts his eyes in shame.

**CROOKNECK**  
It’s almost Halloween and we have no money to buy a pumpkin sir.

**PETER**  
So you just come along and decide to pick three of my pumpkins without asking?-- Hey?!

Pattypan feels remorse and speaks hesitantly.

**PATTYPAN**  
We could do chores to pay for them?
Peter laughs.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! I’m starving!

His facial expressions reveals his frustration. He ponders an instant. Peter raises a brow and chuckles as he looks towards the large pumpkin then back to Pattypan.

PETER
Chores? A fair exchange. You have a deal.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter!

Peter cringes.

PETER
You may keep your pumpkins. I expect you here first thing tomorrow morning. Or else!

PATTYPAN
Or else?

PETER
A deal’s a deal. No one plays the O’Lantern family for a fool. Even the devil knows that.

Squash and Crookneck glance to each other in horror then look back to Peter.

SQUASH
CROOKNECK
The Devil? The Devil?

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter!

Peter emits a disgruntled moan then sighs as he looks back to the large pumpkin.

PETER
Yes Butternut! I’ll be there shortly!

Peter looks back to the three and waves his Jack O’Lantern in the air, which releases them from the immobilizing spell.

Pattypan stands and rejoins the boys, pumpkin in hand. She offers the pumpkin back to Peter.

PATTYPAN
I don’t want mine anymore.

PETER
Oh no dear little one. A deals a deal. Keep it and be back at the crack of dawn.

(MORE)
The three jump in fright then quickly exit out of the field, pumpkin in hand - if they could fly, they would.

*BUTTERNUT (O.S.)*

Peter!

Peter’s eyes furiously widen as he looks to the large pumpkin, enunciating loudly.

*PETER*

Yes my Butternut pumpkin. I’m coming.

**EXT. WOODEN COTTAGE’S FIELD – NIGHT**

The three are running towards their lit cottage as fast as possible. Pattypan is in tears and stops.

*PATTYPAN*

I can’t run anymore.

The cottage door opens and Marie-Louise walks out.

*MARIE-LOUISE*

Where have you all been, I’ve been so worried.

She sees Pattypan sitting on the ground in tears and runs to her. She hugs her.

*MARIE-LOUISE*

What’s the matter?

She looks at the two boys who have stepped near her.

*MARIE-LOUISE*

What have you all been up to? Where did you get those pumpkins?

*PATTYPAN*

We took them, but we got caught.

Marie-Louise looks to Squash in an angry manner.

*MARIE-LOUISE*

What have I taught you about stealing. You go and return them.

*CROOKNECK*

We can keep them, in return for chores.

*MARIE-LOUISE*

Please tell me you didn’t take them from Peter O’Lantern’s field.

Squash and Crookneck nod in shame. Pattypan is crying. Marie-Louise consoles her.
SQUASH
I’m sorry mom.

Pattypan ease her crying and wipes her tears.

PATTYPAN
Mommy? Why does he keep Butternut in a pumpkin?

Marie-Louise helps Pattypan up.

MARIE-LOUISE
No-one really knows...

All four make their way back towards the cottage.

MARIE-LOUISE
...but the rumor is that she is evil and he keeps her there so that no-one...

They enter the cottage. The door shuts.

EXT. O’LANTERN’S PUMPKIN FIELD - NIGHT

The pumpkin field is brightly lit by all the Jack O’Lanterns, including Butternut’s. The most annoying piercing shriek echoes through the field.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! Peter! I want more food!

Peter!

INT. PETER’S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Peter sits on a wooden chair placed near a wooden table; his hands pressed hard against his ears, a ladle in one hand. A Jack O’Lantern placed on the table provides the interior light.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! More pumpkin soup!

Peter closes his eyes shut. The room is filled with pumpkin shells strewn around the floor. The pot on the cast iron stove is bubbling.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! Are you listening to me?!

He gets up to stir the soup.

A figure materializes next to him; it’s JACK, a rugged 60 year old man, dressed in farmer’s clothes.

Jack
I had warned you about her, Peter.

Peter, a little startled, looks to Jack with a smile.
PETER
Dad, what are you doing here?

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter!

Peter cringes placing his hand over his ears. Jack does the same.

PETER
Summon the devil for me dad. Make her go away.

EXT. O’LANTERN’S PUMPKIN FIELD – DAWN
The three are nearing the field quietly and cautiously.

PATTYPAN
I’m scared.

Squash places his arm around her shoulder in console as Peter suddenly materializes in front of them. They jump.

PETER
Right on time.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! The thieves are back!

Peter cringes as chills run up his spine; he shivers.

PETER
Yes, Butternut. I’m dealing with it.

Peter heads towards his cottage, visible in the distance.

PETER
Follow me.

The three follow, Pattypan hugging close to Squash.

PATTYPAN
(whispers)
Where are we going?

Squash gestures her to be quiet.

EXT. PETER’S COTTAGE – CONTINUOUS
Peter opens the door and directs them inside, following them and then closes the door.

INT. PETER’S COTTAGE – CONTINUOUS
Six medium pumpkins and carving tools are placed on the wooden table.
The outside light filters through the open window. The three look to each other then to Peter.

PETER
Your chores were to carve pumpkins into pieces and feed Butternut. But, there’s been a slight change of plan. I now need you to carve out two pumpkins each, with the most hideous faces imaginable.

CROOKNECK
Why?

Peter shoves them closer to the table.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! I’m hungry! Peter!

Peter moans in frustration.

PATTYPAN
Why do you keep Butternut in that...

PETER
I don’t want to hear another sound. Now get carvin’. I’ll be back in two hours.

SQUASH
But we can’t do...

Peter disappears.

CROOKNECK
Now what do we do?

SQUASH
Start carvin’.

Pattypan begins to cry, Squash consoles her.

SQUASH
I’ll help you do yours.

EXT. O’LANTERN’S PUMPKIN FIELD – MORNING

Marie-Louise cautiously enters the northern end of the field and heads for the large pumpkin.

She steps near it as Butternut’s grotesque wart loaded face suddenly pops out of the carved window, biting into a large chunk of peeled pumpkin. With her mouth full she hollows.

BUTTERNUT
Peter! I want more pumpkin!
Marie-Louise, unseen, is taken aback in a start and quickly rests her body flat against the large pumpkin shell. A long loud burp is heard. Marie-Louise pulls a face in disgust.

Butternut disappears back into the Pumpkin shell.

Marie-louise hears a loud fart. The smell overpowers her. She waves her hand in front of her face, the other covering her nose and mouth as she dry reaches.

INT. PETER’S COTTAGE – MORNING

Three pumpkins are under way. Pattypan is scooping the interior of one as Squash is carving out a twisted mouth on another.

Crookneck stands by the window.

SQUASH
Can you see him?

CROOKNECK
No.

Crookneck sees his mom.

CROOKNECK
Mom’s out there!

The other two run for the window. Pattypan isn’t high enough to see and rushes to the door and opens it.

SQUASH
No wait.

Pattypan rushes outside, followed by Squash and Crookneck.

EXT. PETER’S COTTAGE – CONTINUOUS

PATTYPAN
Mom! We’re over here.

Marie-Louise sees them and runs over.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! Peter! Someone’s in the field!

Marie-Louise reaches the three as Peter materializes in front of them. She protectively grabs hold of the three.

Peter is speechless as his eyes meet with Marie-Louise’s. She also appears speechless. Pattypan tugs at her apron.

PATTYPAN
Mom! What’s wrong?

Peter breaks the stare and looks to the three.
PETER
We have a deal, now back in there.

He points to the open door.

PATTYPAN
Can mom help?

Peter and Marie-Louise share another passing glance. Marie-Louise blushes. In an almost loving tone, Peter replies.

PETER
If she likes.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! More food!

He looks at the four, his expression revealing agony.

PETER
I’ll be back in an hour.

Peter disappears. Marie-Louise looks around.

MARIE-LOUISE
How did he do that?

Crookneck grabs hold of her apron and tugs.

CROOKNECK
Come on mom, we only have an hour.

They enter the cottage. Marie-Louise looks around once more, a smile upon her face then enters.

EXT. DENSE WOODS - MORNING

Jack sits on a stump, his Jack O’Lantern beside him. Peter materializes next to him, a grin on his lips.

JACK
Have they carved out the six pumpkins?

PETER
Almost.

Peter sits on another nearby stump.

JACK
I’ve summoned the devil. He is ready to make a deal.

PETER
You’ve tricked him once before. Why would he deal with you again?
JACK
That’s my concern. When the pumpkins are ready, you will need to place a piece of the devil’s fire in each.

Jack opens his Jack O’Lantern lid and removes the glowing fragment. He breaks it in half and hands it to Peter.

JACK
Break this into six and place a fragment in each pumpkin tonight at midnight.

Peter takes the fragment which glows in his hands.

JACK
It’s the fires of hell. It will summon the devil and by tomorrow, you’ll be rid of Butternut.

PETER
How?

Jack smiles.

JACK
Next time, choose wisely. I will not be around to help you.

PETER
Why? What have you promised him?

Jack stands and smiles then touches Peter on the shoulder.

JACK
Never you mind, son.

Jack disappears.

INT. PETER’S COTTAGE – LATER

Six pumpkins, carved with the most hideous faces are on the table. Marie-Louise and her three children are tidying up the cottage. Peter enters the open front door mesmerized.

MARIE-LOUISE
Thought we’d give it a clean for you.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! Where’s my soup?!

Marie-Louise pulls a face.

MARIE-LOUISE
Why do you keep her in that pumpkin?

Peter skews his mouth.
PETER
She farts, she snores, she burps, she’s fat, she’s ugly and she makes me puke every time I set eyes on her.

The children giggle, Marie-Louise holds hers back.

MARIE-LOUISE
Why take her as a wife?

PETER
I didn’t. She’s a witch. She’s cast a love spell on me and I’m bound to her till she dies.

MARIE-LOUISE
That’s terrible.

Peter is captivated by Marie-Louise.

PETER
You are so beautiful.

Marie-Louise blushes. The children watch on silent, gaping.

BUTTERNUT (O.S.)
Peter! Peter!

The children cover their ears.

MARIE-LOUISE
There must be a way to break the spell.

PETER
As long as she is in that pumpkin she is powerless.

Peter pulls out the fire from his pocket. All mouths gape as they look to the glowing fragment.

PETER
Tonight, at midnight, on the eve of Halloween. I will place this fire of hell into these six pumpkins and the devil will take her. Forever!

MARIE-LOUISE
Oh my!

Anticipating, Marie-Louise’s facial expressions reveals an unexpected infatuation as she looks to Peter.

Pattypan looks to Marie-Louise then to Peter, who have locked into a mesmerizing stare then looks back to Squash who stands beside her and whispers.

PATTY潘
Is he going to be our new daddy?