

Hallowe'en / When a' the witchie may be seen; / Some o' them black,
 This is the night o' **HALL O' WEE' EN** some o' them green,
 SPELLS / Some o' them like a turkey bean.

The veil between the worlds is said to be thinnest at Hallowe'en. People have traditionally taken advantage of this magical time of year to cast extra-powerful spells, read the future and communicate with the spirits of the dead.

Need-Fire Spell

The Anglo-Saxon tribes that invaded Britain called Hallowe'en 'need-fire'. They lit bonfires to magically endow the sun with the strength to survive the winter. Such bonfire customs survive in Great Britain, but have been moved to the 5th of November and associated with the burning in effigy of Guy Fawkes. Revive the old magic by lighting your own 'need-fire' out of doors and add a colourful touch of the modern with fireworks.

Protection against Evil Spirits

The fierce faced lanterns carved out of pumpkins and, in colder climates where pumpkins are rare, turnips, are apotropaic charms intended to ward off evil spirits and protect traveller and household from harm. Make a Jack O'Lantern (US: Jack-O-Lantern) to keep the ghosties and ghoulies at bay. It is said that when you see the flame flickering, a spirit is near..

Hazelnut Love Spell

A girl might divine who her future husband was going to be by lining up hazelnuts in front of the fire, each of which represented one of the boys that was wooing her. She would then chant, "If you love me, pop and fly. If you hate me, burn and die."

Water Love Spell

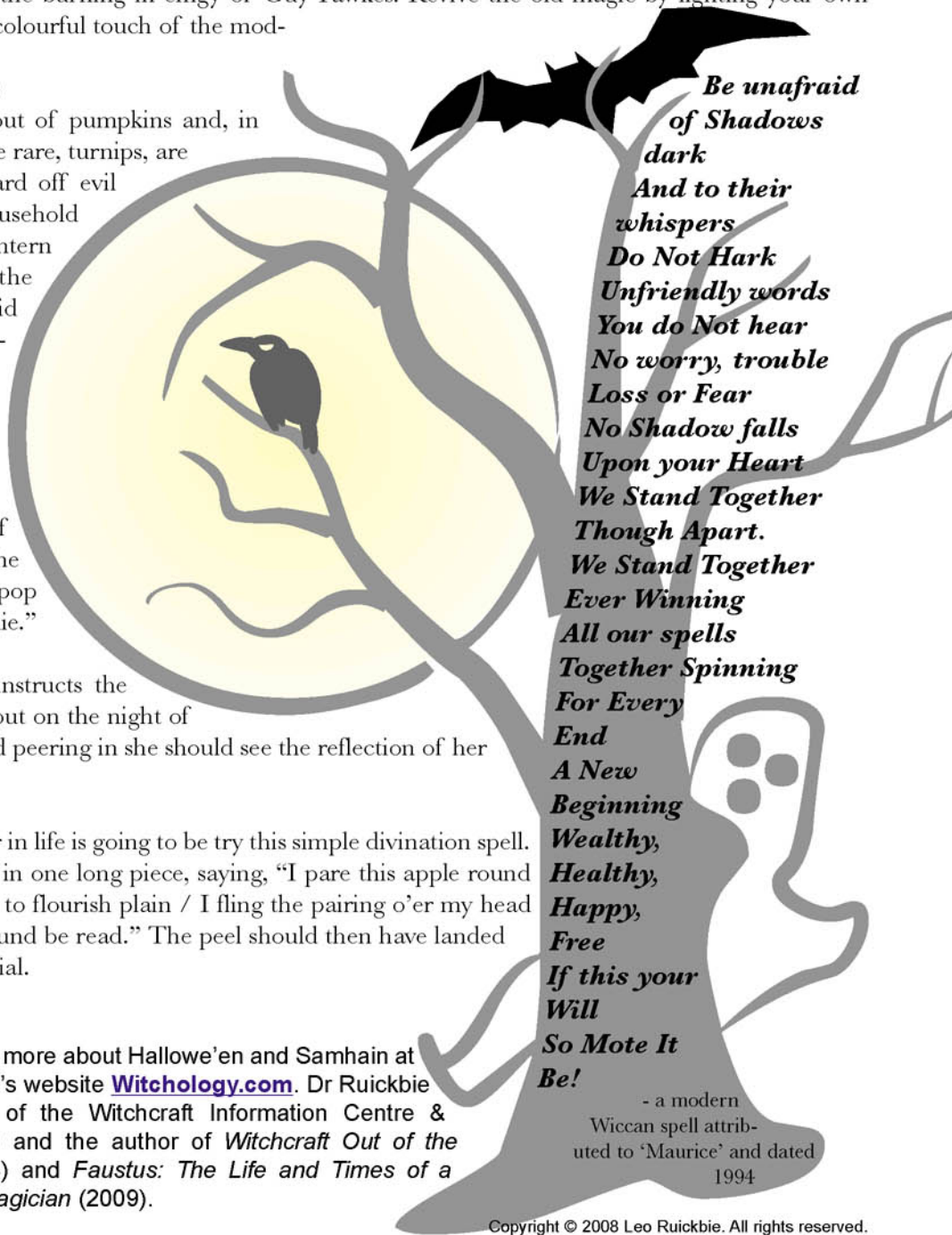
Another tradition from America instructs the curious girl to take a lamp and go out on the night of Hallowe'en to a spring of water and peering in she should see the reflection of her future husband.

Apple Love Spell

To find out who your future partner in life is going to be try this simple divination spell. Take an apple and peel its skin off in one long piece, saying, "I pare this apple round and again / My sweetheart's name to flourish plain / I fling the pairing o'er my head / My sweetheart's letter on the ground be read." The peel should then have landed in the shape of your true-love's initial.



You can find out more about Hallowe'en and Samhain at Dr Leo Ruickbie's website Witchology.com. Dr Ruickbie is the director of the Witchcraft Information Centre & Archive (WICA) and the author of *Witchcraft Out of the Shadows* (2004) and *Faustus: The Life and Times of a Renaissance Magician* (2009).



*Be unafraid
 of Shadows
 dark
 And to their
 whispers
 Do Not Hark
 Unfriendly words
 You do Not hear
 No worry, trouble
 Loss or Fear
 No Shadow falls
 Upon your Heart
 We Stand Together
 Though Apart.
 We Stand Together
 Ever Winning
 All our spells
 Together Spinning
 For Every
 End
 A New
 Beginning
 Wealthy,
 Healthy,
 Happy,
 Free
 If this your
 Will
 So Mote It
 Be!*

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 Wiccan spell attrib-
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 1994