NICK CARR STUDIO

NCS HALLOWEEN ZINE

002 / OCTOBER 2026 / HANOVER, PA



SOME THINGS ARE WORTH BRINGING BACK FROM THE DEAD.

Original DIY Costumes. Questionable Judgment.

Local stages. Big characters.
Things worth watching.



Nick, Halloween 1994.

A NOTE FROM NICK

HALLOWEEN / 002

I'm sitting in my parents' car by myself. The year is 1994. I'm listening to a McDonald's Halloween cassette, deliberately trying to scare the shit out of myself.

One side had Ronald singing with the gang. This was the other side. Chains. Growls. Whatever McDonald's considered an appropriate level of psychological distress for its younger customers. I couldn't tell you exactly what was on it now, but I remember wanting to be scared enough to sit there alone and listen.

That probably explains a few things about me.

Growing up in the '90s, Halloween came with this incredible little taste of freedom. Going door to door, discovering which house had the best candy, conducting important neighborhood business as Batman or the Red Ranger. A very serious commitment to public service and candy. The costume didn't make me invincible, though. I almost had my foot ripped off by a pickup truck while crossing the street without my parents, dressed as Austin Powers. Very groovy boots. Terrible protective equipment. "Yeah, baby."

Halloween has always lived somewhere between spooky, stupid, and genuinely wonderful for me. Carving pumpkins every year. Dreaming up a costume and figuring out how to make it. Making mine from scratch became such a tradition that, to this day, if I haven't had enough time to craft it, I won't dress up. Apparently I've given my favorite holiday a production requirement.

Then there are the decorations I've had forever. A whole collection that comes out once a year. I look forward to seeing them again. They're part of how Halloween looks to me, familiar things that have stayed with me while so much else has changed. Getting them out is one of those small rituals that makes the season arrive.

FROM THE NOTE

“Some things are worth bringing back from the dead.”

I don’t remember every Halloween clearly. But these things have been there through so much of my life. For a little while, something I loved as a kid is right in front of me again. I think that’s what traditions give us. At first, you’re just doing something because it’s fun. Years later, it’s become a way back to a feeling you might otherwise forget.

Making something belongs in that ritual, too. Even a face carved into a pumpkin. It doesn’t have to win anything or become content. A pumpkin with crooked teeth can be worth an hour of your life, even when there’s a mess to sweep up afterward. So can a pun costume that takes three explanations and still gets you absolutely nowhere. If you’re laughing, at least one person got the joke.

The orange ‘THIS IS MY HALLOWEEN COSTUME’ shirt will still be there next year. For me, a lot of the pleasure comes before the costume is finished, while I’m figuring out how to make some ridiculous idea exist. I think Halloween helped teach me to enjoy that part.

Sitting alone in my parents’ car, I didn’t need much encouragement to let my imagination take over. A cassette was enough. I wanted to be scared. I wanted to see what happened next. Somewhere in all of that was the excitement I still look for when October comes around.

Maybe you haven’t felt your own version of that in years. If it’s gone a little quiet, I hope this Halloween gives it a reason to come out again. Something old that still matters. Something new that makes you laugh. Maybe it’s that really good idea you had that’s been lying dormant for a few years, and something about the fall brought it back. A little time with the part of yourself that used to find all of this so exciting.

Some things are worth bringing back from the dead.

Nick



Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice

Original DIY Halloween Costumes

Always check with an adult if these are safe Halloween costumes

Step 1



Apply the base coat.

Step 2



Ignore the suggested number of coats.

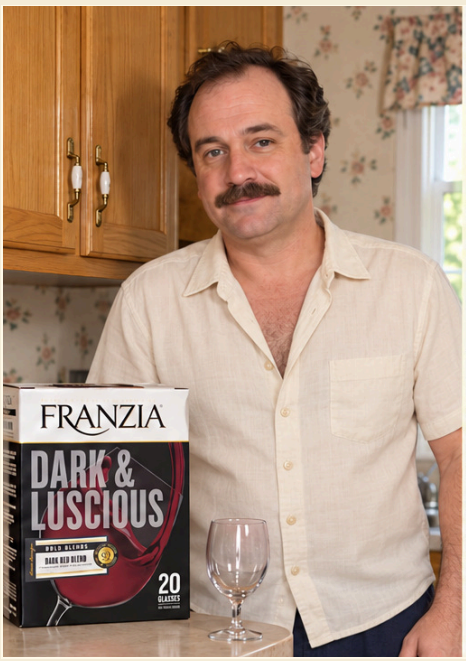
Step 3



THE GREAT PUMPKIN

The bottle said bronze. His wife said "Please don't do that."

Step 1



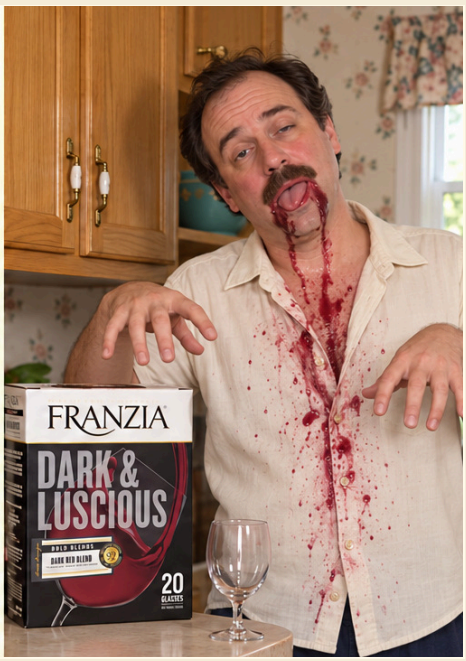
Choose a dramatic red accent.

Step 2



Apply straight from the dispenser.

Step 3



COUNT DRUNKULA

He only comes out after five.

Original DIY Halloween Costumes

Always check with an adult if these are safe Halloween costumes

Step 1



Start your Halloween morning with your daily juice cleanse.

Step 2



Forget to put on the lid because your kid is screaming.

Step 3



THE INCREDIBLE SULK

You wouldn't like him when he's cleansing.

Step 1



Fall asleep watching the kids.

Step 2



Completely miss them getting into your wife's makeup.

Step 3



INSANELY PISSED CLOWN

"Is that permanent marker?!"

Meanwhile, in My Brain...



THE LATEST FROM THE STUDIO

HALLOWEEN / THREE SHORT FILMS



WATCH FILM / 01

DIVERSIFIED CUTS

HAIRY HALLOWEEN 2

Finding the right Halloween look gets complicated when you're already Hairy.

BEHIND THE SCENES

With Hairy's pupils fixed, physical comedy depends on clear body language and well-timed reactions.



WATCH FILM / 02

AVALON

AVALON'S RICKHOUSE SPOOKEASY

A Tim Burton-inspired invitation behind Avalon's hidden bookcase.

BEHIND THE SCENES

I performed the voice-over, inspired by the late great Sir Patrick Stewart.



WATCH FILM / 03

DIVERSIFIED CUTS

HAIRY HALLOWEEN 1

Hairy makes his first Halloween appearance for Diversified Cuts.

BEHIND THE SCENES

I gave the shop's mascot a full character performance, using movement and timing to bring him to life.

GO SEE SOMETHING

The lights are coming up close to home. Make a night of what people around here are making.

ON STAGE / NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2026

HANOVER LITTLE THEATRE / 78TH SEASON

THINGS MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME

A first apartment. Parents at the door. Let Hanover Little Theatre set the scene for your next night out.

360 Blooming Grove Road, Hanover

NOV 6-8 + 12-15

Thu/Fri 7:30 pm

Sat/Sun 2 pm

Show details & tickets →

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

Small Town Stars Theatre Company

Westminster / Synergy Space Dance Studio

Save an evening for a storybook adventure.

NOV 13 + 14 / 7 pm

NOV 15 / 2 pm

Show details & tickets →

WHITE CHRISTMAS

The Belmont Theatre

York / 27 South Belmont Street

Make room for a little holiday theatre.

NOV 27-29 + DEC 3-6

Check times

Show details & tickets →

CHRISTMAS CAROL THE MUSICAL

Players on Air

Hampstead / Pantherplex

Let a familiar Christmas story take the stage.

DEC 4-13

Check times

Show details & tickets →

CINDERELLA

Gettysburg Community Theatre

Gettysburg / 49 York Street

Penguin Project. A little fairy-tale magic.

DEC 11-13 + 18-20

Check times

Show details & tickets →

Within 30 miles in a straight line from central Hanover (17331). Drives may be longer.
Checked October 31, 2026. All times Eastern. Links open official theatre websites.

LOCAL ARTS / AROUND THE STUDIO

GET ON STAGE

A first read. A new role. A room full of people making something together. Your next entrance could start here.

AUDITIONS / NOVEMBER 2026–JANUARY 2027

LITTLE ACTS AT LTM

Little Theatre of Mechanicsburg
Mechanicsburg / 915 South York Street
Give a short play its first spark. Cold readings and improv.

NOV 15 + 16
7–9 pm
No prep needed
Audition details →

THE GAME'S AFOOT

Hanover Little Theatre
Hanover / 360 Blooming Grove Road
Step into a whodunit. Bring your form and conflict list.

NOV 30 + DEC 1
7 pm
Ages 18+
Audition details →

THE ODD COUPLE

The Belmont Theatre
York / 27 South Belmont Street
Find your comic timing. Cold readings; no prepared monologue.

NOV 30 + DEC 1
6 pm
No monologue
Audition details →

THE HOBBIT

DreamWrights Center for Community Arts
York / 100 Carlisle Avenue
No experience required. There's room to begin an adventure.

DEC 1 + 2
Check times
Ages 7-adult
Audition details →

PIPPIN

DreamWrights Center for Community Arts
York / 100 Carlisle Avenue
No experience required. Take a first step toward the stage.

JAN 12 + 13, 2027
Check times
Ages 7-adult
Audition details →

Checked October 31, 2026. All times Eastern. Links open official theatre websites.

NICK CARR STUDIO

BIG IMAGINATIONS. COMING SOON.

Acting + Filmmaking for Kids



Interest only. Dates, location and pricing are still being planned.